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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

NICARAGUAN AMBASSADOR ON EL SALVADORAN ROMERO'S ASSASSINATION

PA260349 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2311 GMT 25 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 25 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan Ambassador to El Salvador Francisco Quinonez arrived today in Managua after being recalled for consultations by the Sandinist Revolutionary Government.

Shortly after his arrival, Quinonez met with Foreign Minister Father Miguel d'Escoto Brockman, to whom he presented a report on the details of the assassination of San Salvador Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero, which occurred yesterday in the Salvadoran capital.

After his talk with the foreign minister, Ambassador Quinonez told our correspondent that when he left San Salvador this morning nothing was known yet about the perpetrators and masterminds of this crime, which has shocked the Salvadoran people.

The diplomat said nonetheless that one of the rumors circulating attributes the assassination to the extreme left, which could be seeking to create chaos in the country and the necessary conditions for popular insurrection to take place, as was the case in Nicaragua when journalist and opposition leader Pedro Jaoquin Chamorro was assassinated in 1978.

Other sectors blame the extreme right for the assassination of the Salvadoran archbishop, since it blamed him for most of the current violence.

Last Sunday, in his sermon, Archbishop Romero had warned the army about the soldiers' obligation "to obey God before men." U.S. Ambassador Robert White attended that mass.

According to Ambassador Quinonez, someone reported that in one of the armed forces offices two high-ranking military officers were overheard saying that the army could no longer tolerate Monsignor Romero. Shortly after, the archbishop was shot to death while saying mass in the chapel of the Divine Providence Hospital.

According to the ambassador, observers of the Salvadoran political situation feel that the Salvadoran army and the CIA probably participated in the crime,

considering the assassin's skill, his accuracy in shooting and the tremendous problems that the extreme right is currently experiencing in the wake of the implementation of the agrarian reform and the nationalization of the banks.

The Revolutionary Coordinating Board of the masses apparently does not want popular insurrection to be unleashed at this point in El Salvador, but others feel it is probable that the people may burst forth regardless of their not being strong enough to confront the army and the security corps.

The pattern for the immediate future, the Nicaraguan Ambassador feels, may be defined at the funeral mass and other funeral ceremonies for the archbishop, that will probably take place tomorrow.

As a result of this situation, a large number of press, radio and television newsmen from all over the world, anxious to obtain news, have begun arriving in El Salvador.

Military chief and government junta member Col Adolfo Arnaldo Majano went on television last night to condemn this "abominable crime" in the government's name, to ask people to act prudently and to express official condolences to the grieving family, the church and his country's Catholic community.

Today it was learned that a number of university leaders--it is not known whether organized in the revolutionary coordinating board or not--were calling the popular organizations to total insurrection.

CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

MEXICO TO INCREASE OIL SALES TO BRAZIL IN 1981

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 23 Feb 80 p 14

[Text] Brasilia--Mexican Ambassador Francisco Cuevas Cancino said yesterday that in 1980 his country can grant Brazil only "a good-will increase" in its oil sales. He revealed, however, that the following years the increase may be significant.

Commenting on the future visit of President Jose Lopes Portillo to Brazil at the end of July, Ambassador Cuevas Cancino pointed out that he will certainly deal with the oil problem here, especially since the president of the Mexican Petroleum Enterprise (PEMEX), Jorge Dias Serrano, will be a member of the delegation.

But he warned that Mexico is not willing to sell its oil in exchange for other products but only for payment in dollars, "unless there is great interest in some type of products." He added that the Mexican steel industry has great interest in Brazilian iron-ore pellets, another item that will certainly be taken up during President Portillo's visit.

He believes that Brazilian-Mexican trade is going to increase substantially although the visit should not be categorized as one of commercial interest. What is going to facilitate negotiations is the meetings, already scheduled for May, of the subcommittees that will negotiate within the framework of the schedule of goods established by the two sides during Foreign Minister Jorge Castaneda's visit last year. On that occasion, Mexico presented a list containing more than 50 Brazilian products in which it was interested.

But Ambassador Cuevas Cancino believes that President Portillo's visit will "stand on its own." "It is of vital importance because it is taking place at a time when the international situation is particularly unsettled, bringing together the chief executives of two countries that have considerable influence in the continent. The two presidents can talk and seek ways to defend their countries against international problems the best way possible," he stressed.

The ambassador added that President Portillo's delegation will have an official representation but will also be accompanied by a large number of Mexican businessmen who will come to talk and possibly negotiate with Brazilian businessmen. He pointed out also that one of the important points of the visit will be the creation of new mechanisms of cultural cooperation inasmuch as he considers the present ones very defective. "We have to take concrete measures to overcome the language barrier," he said after lamenting the fact that there is so little knowledge of Mexican culture in Brazil and the little exchange of study scholarships between the two countries.

Arms Purchase

The military attache of the Mexican Embassy, General Vinicio Santoyo Faria, said yesterday that it was possible that General Felix Galvan Lopes, Mexican minister of defense, may contract the purchase of Brazilian arms during the official visit he will make to Brazil beginning 10 May. General Santoyo pointed out that there are no concrete indications that there may be transactions but he considered the possibility "very natural."

Defense Minister General Galvan will arrive in Brasilia on the 10th for a 5-day visit. He will be officially received by the Minister-Chief of Armed Forces General Staff General Jose Ferraz da Rocha. He will have meetings with Air Minister Brigadier Delio Jardim de Mattos, and Army Minister General Walter Pires. Later, he will go to Sao Paulo and Rio where he will visit army and air units.

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CSO: 3001

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

SEAMEN FLEE FROM 'CASTRO COMMUNISM,' ARRIVE IN COSTA RICA

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 11 Feb 80 p 20

[Report on interview with seven Cuban seamen by Guillermo Fernandez R. of LA NACION; date and place not given]

[Text] LA NACION of San Jose, Costa Rica, has published the odyssey of seven young Cuban seamen who deserted from Fidel Castro's merchant fleet and went to Panama, where they requested asylum in the Venezuelan Embassy; however, the head of that embassy turned them over to Panamanian police, who arrested them. They were finally able to come to San Jose, where LA NACION interviewed them.

Following is the text of the interviews, by Guillermo Fernandez R. of LA NACION:

In what amounted to a mutiny in the Cuban merchant fleet, seven seamen from that country have deserted and sought refuge in Costa Rica after abandoning, in various Panamanian ports, the ships to which they were assigned. Four of them are staying at the La Salle College facilities in San Jose, where they were received by former Cuban political prisoners and family members--approximately 200--who arrived in our country on Thursday, 10 January, while the 3 remaining were lodged at La Nueva Super Comercial inn in the center of the capital city.

The seven crossed the Costa Rican border in the area of Paso Canoas after trying unsuccessfully to find political asylum in the embassies of the United States and Venezuela in Panama. They arrived here between 30 January and 2 February, but they had left Havana, Cuba, on 12 December and 19 January.

Jose Roberto Gonzalez Hernandez, 27 years of age, abandoned the ship "Golfo de Batabano" at dock number 10 in the port of Colon; Raul Novales Novales, 24 years old, and Mario Abreau, 25, did not return to their ship, the "Rio Bayano," which was docked at pier 18 in the port of Balboa, and Venerardo Ramos Osorio, 31, deserted from the "Rio Contramaestre" while it was at the same Balboa dock.

Alberto García Díez, Recar Lopez Tamayo and Luis Manuel Martínez Arbizu also left the ship they were assigned to--they had left Havana several days earlier--but under circumstances which as of yesterday could not be ascertained. All of them, taking advantage of shore leave privileges for different times and different occasions, succeeded in hiding among the Panamanian people and not returning to the ships.

Some of them, fearing that the Panamanian authorities might arrest them and force them to return to their ships, remained hidden for several days with the aid of Panamanians or Cubans residing in Panama.

Fourteen More

In addition, members of the Cuban colony here have said that there are 14 more seamen who have deserted in the last few days. This brings to 21 the number of Cuban defectors who have joined the great number of persons who have been able to leave the island governed by Fidel Castro, especially in the last few months.

A group of eight seamen remains in Panama jails awaiting the granting of political asylum or safe conduct to Costa Rica.

It is also known that six more deserted while the ship on which they were traveling was docked in Peru, "not counting those who may have fled in the last few days, of whom we are unaware, or who may be deserting at this moment, according to the statement of one of those staying at La Salle College.

Jailed in Panama

Two of the four deserters who are staying with the other exiled Cubans at La Salle College were held for 35 days in Panama's Model Prison before coming to our country.

The seven, however, managed by various means to get to the border and from there, unseen by the authorities of either of the two countries, they came to the capital city.

Those who were arrested by Panamanian authorities had gone voluntarily to the immigration offices of that country. There they, as well as the Venezuelan ambassador in Panama, were told by immigration officials that the Cubans would be able to appear to legalize their situation and prepare the documents needed to go to Venezuela, the United States or Costa Rica.

Hunger Strike

Ramos Osorio related: "After hiding for several days in Panama City, aided greatly by Cubans residing in that country, I decided to go to the Venezuelan Embassy to request political asylum.

"This was denied me for several reasons, but they did communicate with the office of immigration, for the purpose of resolving my case. However, they deceived us all, because no sooner did I arrive there than I was arrested and sent to Model Prison for 35 days.

"After I had been in jail for 11 days," continued Venerardo, "Jose Roberto Gonzalez, who had also been arrested by the immigration authorities, arrived. Together we decided to go on a hunger strike so that they would set us free."

After a few days, according to their story, it was decided, with the help of Cubans residing in the country and in view of the problems presented by the Panamanian authorities, to take them to the Costa Rican border, give each one five dollars and tell them to head for San Jose.

At this time, with the help of the Cuban colony here, they are making efforts to legalize their presence here. Most of them are interested in remaining in Costa Rica, obtaining residence permits and working normally.

One of them, Roberto Gonzalez, says he has family in Miami, United States, and so he would prefer to obtain a visa to enter that country and later on a residence permit to stay there with his relatives.

Meanwhile, they have been given special documents by the Costa Rican authorities which permit them to travel about freely within our national territory. In any case, all of them said, through Venerardo Ramos Osorio: "To extradite us they will have to kill us first. We will never return to Cuba. From here, anywhere but Cuba.

Fear for Families

Although they fear for their family members who are still on the island, they all confirm that persecution and imprisonments have increased, notably in the last few months. "There is longer any 1 or 2-year jail sentence for anyone; now it is from 5 years up."

In addition, "more than 70 percent of the Cubans do not agree with Castro's regime, but they have to support it because they have no way of getting out of the country," said Venerardo.

He added: "I think I have underestimated it a little. If all the ships in the world were placed at the disposal of the Cubans who want to leave Cuba, they would not be able to make them all in just one trip."

PHOTO CAPTIONS

1. Recar Lopez Tamayo managed to cross the Panamanian border and take refuge in our country.

2. Luis Manuel Martinez Arbizu is awaiting political asylum here, along with his companions who deserted.
3. Jose Roberto Gonzalez Hernandez, 27 years old: "I will never return to Cuba."
4. Raul Novales Novales, 24 years old: "Every day there is less freedom in Cuba."
5. Venerardo Ramos Osorio, 31 years old: "The Cuban Government cannot continue to deceive the people."
6. Alberto Garcia Diez, along with his companions, did not return to the ship on which he worked as a seaman.

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CSO: 3010

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

HONDURAN PDCH OFFICIAL URGES SALVADORANS TO LEAVE GOVERNMENT

PA262300 Tegucigalpa Radio America in Spanish 1417 GMT 26 Mar 80 PA

[Distributed by Inter-Central American Radio Organization]

[Text] Adan Palacios, secretary general of the Honduran Christian Democratic Party (PDCH), yesterday asked Christian Democrats in the Salvadoran Revolutionary Government Junta to withdraw from the government if they do not wish to further tarnish their international image. Palacios voiced this opinion in the name of Honduran Christian Democrats while commenting on the tragic death of Salvadoran Archbishop Msgr Oscar Arnulfo Romero y Galdamez, which occurred Monday while he was saying mass in the capital.

We know, Adan Palacios commented, that Christian democracy is not a single international unit. For this reason, joint government plans are not outlined. Rather, each party acts in accordance with the circumstances surrounding it. However, it is just and necessary that our Salvadoran counterparts withdraw from the government and join the sectors fighting for the country's liberation.

To remain in the government, Palacios added, would be tantamount to being the architect of the massacre to which the people are being subjected.

Palacios also said that the assassination of Archbishop Romero must be condemned internationally and that the Salvadoran Government must be asked to clarify this incident so that those responsible for this abominable assassination can be prosecuted.

Palacios went on to say that the situation in El Salvador will be much more complicated now that the archbishop has died. If the situation was critical before, he commented, the archbishop's death will intensify the Salvadoran crisis, making it even more dangerous. The specter of a civil war is now looming more dangerously.

Further on, he stated that the United States might now seek to justify sending large numbers of weapons to the Salvadoran military by pointing to the current situation. He said other countries might also contribute to that aid.

It is no secret to anyone, he added, that efforts are being made to establish an extreme right in El Salvador. That would pose a threat to the Nicaraguan revolution, which would run serious risks. This is why I believe this situation concerns not only the Salvadoran people, but Central America as a whole. The Nicaraguan leaders must carefully weigh these developments in order to preserve their achievements, and Christian Democracy must not help foil the aspirations of the Central American people, who want their freedom.

It is for this reason, Palacios said in conclusion, that Christian Democrats in the Salvadoran Government should withdraw from it and should condemn the slaughtering of a people who only want better living conditions.

CSO: 3010

VENEZUELA TO SELL OIL TO NICARAGUA AT DISCOUNT

Deferred Payments Allowed

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 22 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] While a \$75-million loan for Nicaragua was being debated in Washington, Venezuela announced Thursday a multifaceted aid plan for our country based on oil.

The Venezuelan decision to rebate \$2.50 for each barrel of oil sold to Nicaragua and to permit our country to retain the money paid for the oil will mean more than \$1 billion in the next 6 months for the national economy.

At the end of the 6 months, this savings will be converted into a long-term loan for Nicaragua from Venezuela.

The AFP dispatch on the Venezuelan decision read as follows:

Caracas, 21 Feb (AFP)--It was reported here today that Venezuela will supply 27,000 barrels of oil a day to Nicaragua as a concrete contribution of aid to that Central American country.

Asdrubal Aguilar, director of international cooperation for the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry, said that Venezuela sells oil internationally for \$26.00 a barrel.

Nevertheless, it will be sold to Nicaragua for \$23.50; that is, \$2.50 less. In other words, Venezuela will donate \$2.50 for each barrel to Nicaraguan development programs.

The remaining \$23.50 will be deposited in the Central Bank of Nicaragua to help the balance of payments of this country in reconstruction.

Aguilar stated that, after 6 months, these deposits will be converted into long-term loans to finance development projects.

The diplomat reaffirmed that Venezuela is meeting its commitment to help Nicaragua in this way but, perhaps more important, it is also guaranteeing the supply of energy resources to that country.

Zarruck Discusses Aid

Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 23 Feb 80 pp 1, 12

[Text] The possibility of cheap oil and payment of reserves from Venezuela to Nicaragua was confirmed to LA PRENSA yesterday morning by Carlos Zarruck, minister of CONDEMINAH [Nicaraguan Corporation of Mines and Hydrocarbons].

He explained that the Venezuelan decision has not yet been officially confirmed but it is in response to a proposal that the GRN [Government of National Reconstruction] made to the Venezuelan Government requesting that it sell Nicaragua oil at April 1979 prices with a year to pay without interest. This would save Nicaragua a large amount of currency and also stabilize our balance of payments.

Based on this original Nicaraguan proposal, Venezuela immediately began to investigate financial mechanisms to carry out our request and give us aid. Today, after several studies, it is responding with that new multifaceted aid plan for our country based on oil.

Aid Plan

The minister confirmed that the official plan is as expressed in the AFP dispatch although there were some numerical errors. He stated that Venezuela plans to sell Nicaragua oil at \$23.50 per barrel; that is, \$2.50 less than on the international market. This \$2.50 per barrel would be donated to Nicaragua and the \$23.50 that it would have to pay would be deposited in the Central Bank of Nicaragua. After 6 months, these deposits can be converted into long-term loans and finance Nicaraguan development projects.

Concerning the numerical errors, companero Zarruck explained that the Venezuelan counterproposal will not supply 27,000 barrels of oil a day to Nicaragua since that would be more than the estimated 5 million barrels that Nicaragua will need this year.

The minister reported that the offer is for some 12,500 to 13,000 barrels daily, the amount needed to satisfy Nicaragua's annual consumption. At the same time, this would mean approximately \$100 million for the long-term loans, not more than \$1 billion as LA PRENSA mistakenly reported yesterday.

Other Characteristics

Referring to other characteristics of the loan, the minister pointed out the superiority of this proposal compared to other loans that have been offered Nicaragua since the revolutionary victory. This is both a donation and an unrestricted loan which can be used for any project the GRN feels is necessary.

Nevertheless, he recalled that this loan and donation have not yet been officially ratified by the Venezuelan Congress. He did know, though, that it was already under discussion and subject to a vote.

Finally, he announced that a Nicaraguan delegation will soon go to Venezuela to confirm and sign the agreement with President Herrera Campins. The delegation will be headed by Maj Daniel Ortega, member of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction, and include Miguel D'Escoto, minister of foreign affairs, and Carlos Zarruck, minister of CONDEMINAH.

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CSO: 3010

GRENADA AIMS AT IMPROVING TIES WITH TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

FL241430 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 15 Mar 80 p 3 FL

[Text] St George's Grenada, Friday, (CANA)--Grenada has not abandoned attempts to improve relations with Trinidad and Tobago, Prime Minister Maurice Bishop said today.

At a news conference, Bishop complained of Trinidad and Tobago's torpedoing of attempts at improved relations, but added..."We intend to continue to develop these relations...try to get relations going because we see it as important.

"They are our nearest neighbours, more or less. There are more and more of our people living in Trinidad than in Grenada; there is a daily trade between the islands..."

In addition, there were "several hundred good reasons" relating to family and friendship ties to support Grenada's efforts for better relations, he said.

Mr Bishop was the second minister to complain about Trinidad and Tobago's reaction to the Grenada overtures. Deputy prime minister, Bernard Coard, recently told the press that there had been no positive response to Grenada's proposals for co-operation in areas including petroleum and the movement of passengers between the two states.

"We have been almost bending over backwards in our attempts to develop official lines of communication with the government of Trinidad and Tobago. We have written several letters. We have also sent the deputy prime minister to Trinidad to attempt to hold talks with his counterpart or with the minister of foreign affairs. We have been speaking to all the government officials that we meet at the various regional and international conferences and meetings.

"We have been using unofficial means also, utilising people in Trinidad and Tobago who support the revolution, in our attempts to try to develop the lines of communication. The government of Trinidad has basically not been responding to our attempts at building relations with them."

Bishop described the Trinidad and Tobago reaction as reflecting "a very deep attitude of narrow nationalism and isolationism which is part of the tradition of colonialism which we would hope that elements in the Trinidad Government would be against.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

JAMAICAN, BARBADOS OFFICIALS HOLD TRADE TALKS

FL241420 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 15 Mar 80 p 1 FL

[Text] Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has left Barbados last night, after what he described as "unstructured discussions" with his Barbadian counterpart, Mr. Tom Adams.

Speaking at an airport press conference before leaving for Jamaica, Mr. Manley said the talks had centered on the situation on the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), and the prospects for regional development.

He told reporters that ideological matters had arisen indirectly, by implication, pointing out that the region had been through a period when it seemed that different ideological paths followed by member states, would put a strain on CARICOM's ability to move forward.

He noted that a recent CARICOM foreign ministers meeting had addressed the question of ideological pluralism, and had agreed that this should not be an inhibiting factor.

"In this discussion, it came through that Jamaica and Barbados are both committed to this view," Mr. Manley said.

Questioned whether he was satisfied with the state of the community, the Jamaican Prime Minister said he would like to see more practical regional projects being developed, as such would underpin the association.

But he noted that this would take time, and said he was broadly pleased with the way the community was standing together.

Mr. Manley confirmed that there "has been evidence that it may be possible to get the heads of government together," "adding that if that was the case, all sorts of bilateral contacts were necessary first, to lay the groundwork for such a meeting.

He said that was one consideration behind recent Jamaican missions to Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

Another, he said, was the feeling "that from time to time, various CARICOM members need to get together for periodic meetings to look at possible inhibiting factors."

He said he felt now was such a time.

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

GUATEMALA SOMOZISTS THREATEN NICARAGUAN--A judge of the Nicaraguan Supreme Court of Justice has been threatened from Guatemala. A group of former national guardsmen have told him they will return to Nicaragua and will execute him. One of the Supreme Court judges has received a lengthy letter datelined Guatemala, 18 March, telling him that his days are numbered and that the National Guard will soon reappear in Nicaragua and will carry out an operation that will last 28 hours, 17 minutes and 30 seconds. The letter is signed by Bravo, name of the southern area commander during the days of the final battle for Nicaragua's liberation. Bravo escaped abandoning his troops and was later killed in Tegucigalpa, Honduras by unidentified individuals. The judge feels the threat is senseless, since any type of invasion by the former national guardsmen would be crushed by the Sandinist people. [Text] [PA250017 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1930 GMT 24 Mar 80 PA]

NICARAGUAN-EL SALVADORAN BREAK--Managua, 25 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--The Marxist Revolutionary League (LMR), of Trotskyite orientation, today demanded that the Nicaraguan Government Junta break diplomatic relations with the Salvadoran Government. The LMR leaders released a document to the capital's news media, noting that if Nicaragua breaks with El Salvador, "We would be contributing to the international isolation" of the Salvadoran civilian-military junta. This would also lead to the recognition of all the popular and guerrilla organizations currently fighting in El Salvador as a "belligerent force." The LMR also condemned the assassination of San Salvador Archbishop Monsignor Romero, whom it described as a "loyal Catholic Church representative, who on numerous occasions confronted the various military regimes" in El Salvador. In the wake of the Salvadoran archbishop's assassination, Nicaragua recalled its ambassador to El Salvador, Francisco Quinones, who arrived today at noon in Managua. [Text] [PA260409 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0257 GMT 26 Mar 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

ANTIGUA

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT URGED TO RETURN--Antiguan Premier Vere Bird has called on Antiguanians to give the ruling Antigua Labor Party a mandate so that it can take the country into independence during this year. In a broadcast in which Mr Bird indicated that general elections are imminent for the 170-square mile island, the premier called on Antiguanians to return his ALP government for a second term. In the meantime, there are speculations that the premier has advised the governor to dissolve parliament from Friday for a late April date would be set for Antigua's elections. General elections in Antigua are constitutionally due by February of next year. Meanwhile, Antigua's deputy premier, Lester Bird, said last night that his government had received the draft of an independence constitution from a subcommittee which had been studying the matter. Following opportunities for public scrutiny and ratification by parliament, the Antiguan Government will approach Britain for independence. [Text] [FL262110 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 26 Mar 80 FL]

ELECTORAL IRREGULARITIES--In Antigua, the opposition Progressive Labor Movement has said that the Labor Party government of Premier Vere Bird was condoning electoral malpractices which could adversely affect the PLM and work in favor of the ruling party. The accusation was made at a press conference this morning by the leader of the opposition (Robert Hall). In a prepared statement, Mr (Hall) charged that the government had gerrymandered several constituencies to its own advantage and that there were many irregularities in the preparation of new electoral lists. He added that the new registry was not accurate and had been tampered with in a manner to penalize the PLM and all efforts to correct the glaring faults had failed. However, Antigua's supervisor of elections, (Keith Hilt), denied that any attempt was being made by the government machinery to penalize the PLM. Elections are not constitutionally due in Antigua before February 1980 [as heard], but political observers believe snap elections will be called before the end of April. [Text] [FL192057 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

BRAZIL

EXTREME LEFTIST GROUPS UNDERMINE FORMATION OF PT

Attempted Takeover

Sao Paulo VEJA in Portuguese 27 Feb 80 pp 12-13

[Text] Known as "bus workers," because they usually get jobs in the administrative sections of the factories in order to proclaim that they are close to the workers, members of small leftist radical groups are digging the first big ditch in the territory of the Workers Party--the PT of Luis Inacio da Silva, "Lula," officially launched on the 10th of this month in the elegant Sion College in Sao Paulo, Noisy and well rehearsed, those groups upset the PT national meeting by booing parliamentarians, insulting trade-union leaders and retouching the final text of the manifesto.

Concerned about the negative repercussion of such incidents, a score of PT national leaders met for 10 hours last Thursday in the provisional headquarters of the party in Sao Paulo. Among the threats that hovered over the PT, in addition to the anger of influential trade-unionists, was the defection of Senator Henrique Santillo of Goias, who promised to leave the party if the leadership is seized by students and small extreme leftist groups. At the end of the meeting, however, an official note was released which, while trying to minimize the dimensions of the incidents of the 10th, charged the government and "opposition sectors" with a vague campaign to demoralize the PT.

Thirty Percent: The opposition sectors charged by the note are easily identifiable. In the reaccommodation resulting from the party reform, at least three underground organizations, the largest, have opted for the PMDB and have opened fire against the PT, namely: the Brazilian Communist Party (PCB), the Communist Party of Brazil (PC do B) and the 8 October Revolutionary Movement (MR-8). The smaller groups have swung over to the PT. Sociologist Fabio Munhoz, one of the PT coordinators, estimates that "small ideological groups" of the extreme left now represent about 30 percent of the total membership of the party. Lula is certain that the differences that have emerged in the PT have been exaggerated by the press and by sectors interested in killing the party in the bud. However, a quick comparison of the appraisals made by leaders of the PT and spokesmen of radical groups tends to refute that.

The newspaper EM TEMPO, in last week's issue, lavished praise on the legitimacy of the meeting of the 10th, which had been attended by large numbers of "workmen and leaders of mass movements." Irritated, Federal Deputy Ayrton Soares, one of the parliamentarians who joined the PT, considered the same meeting virtually useless because of its "antidemocratic nature imposed by small organized groups," and also because the coordinators of the meeting permitted the entry of "people whom we do not even know."

Chaff from the Wheat: Jacob Bittar, coordinator of the national provisional committee of the party and leader of the Paulinia oilworkers, asserted that the PT "will never be a class party." The same issue of EM TEMPO, however, asserts that the changes made in the original text of the manifesto stamped "more clearly the class nature of the party." In other statements, the same expression served to augur diverse developments in the future of the PT. The workers will know how to "separate the chaff from the wheat" and will get rid of the radicals, declared Helenos Amorina, president of the metalworkers of Osasco. "The rank and file of the PT knew how to separate the chaff from the wheat," disagreed the newspaper COMPANHIEIRO, another radical organ, referring to the defeat of the "reformists."

The verbal duel waged in Sion College, furthermore, reached "preposterous" levels, according to the comment of an old student leader. Before the beginning of the debates, pamphlets denounced the "petit bourgeois" plan imbedded in the original manifesto, which should simply be thrown into the trash can. "It is too liberal," they said about the definition of democracy proposed by the trade-unionists. The expressions "independent judiciary" and "free parliament" were eliminated. In other passages, "parliament" gave way to "political power," and "people" to "working masses." Words such as "freedom" and "democracy" were invariable shot down.

Program Not Important: "The program came out essentially as we had wanted it. When they proposed changing the word 'people' to 'working masses,' I accepted immediately. What is the problem?" said Lula, defensively. "Furthermore, the program of the Social Democratic Party (PDS) program showed that party programs are not important in the least. If they were, we should all adhere to the program of the PDS, which includes almost all of our demands." Practice once again seems to refute the metalworkers leader: in Porto Alegre, for example, the militancy of the radical groups has created serious problems for the PT.

Last October, when the 21 members of the party regional coordinating committee were selected, the trade-union leaders did not achieve a majority in the plenum and thus remained in the minority in the coordination committee. On 3 February, the date for selection of delegates to the national convention, the coordinating committee decided that only it could elect the Rio Grande do Sul representation that would go to Sao Paulo. Irritated, the trade-unionists left the chamber and the assembly continued, presided over by Jose Carlos Oliveira, "Ze Guerrilha," exponent of the Socialist Tendency student organization. Later, after the manifesto that would be discussed in Sio College had already been completely rejected, some leaders returned.

Social Democrats: Therefore, it is not merely a case of a difference of tone between speakers. Lula and other trade-unionists will have to face active groups accustomed to maneuvers that lead to extreme positions. In Sion College, for example, Mario Pedrosa, a veteran Trotskyite, Apolonio de Carvalho, founder of the Brazilian Revolutionary Communist Party (PCBR), and Vinicius Caldeira Brandt, former president of the National Students Union (UNE), were labeled "social democrats" because of their "moderate" political opinions.

In addition to the boos, Ayrton Soares became concerned about some attempts at a coup by the radical groups, one of them pertaining to the registration book. Certain that it was a founding document, radical members hastened to sign it to try to gain the majority. As a result, more than 800 signatures were put on a document that was later revealed to be worthless because it did not contain the profession or address of the signers as required by the electoral court.

At the party congress scheduled for April 12 and 13, when the national committee of the PT will be elected, the differences will tend to become exacerbated. Vinicius Caldeira Brandt does not appear to be concerned. "The PT aspires to be broad and democratic," said the former member of Popular Action (AP). "The small groups, which are not small by chance, will not have the slightest chance of controlling a really democratic process." In his opinion, the presence of the extreme left in the PT is something inevitable, just as is inevitable the adherence of clandestine organizations to the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMDB).

The Trotskyites Lead the Small Groups

Trotskyite-line groups predominate among the radicals who joined the PT, such as the Socialist Convergence and the Movement for Emancipation of the Proletariat (MEP). On a smaller scale, there are student dissident groups such as Centelha of Belo Horizonte and Advance in the Struggle (Avalu) of Porto Alegre, a faction of Freedom and Struggle (Libeulu). Concerned about the specter of double membership which could lead them to face problems with the police, the Rio Grande do Sul radicals decided to camouflage the umbilical cord, identifying themselves only as "members of the PT." Thus, for example, two well-known leaders of the Rio Grande do Sul Avalu, Sergio Saraiva, "Sergio Panther," and Vera Costa, "Vera the Worker," systematically refused to speak about the matter. For those who want to know what they think, the two recommend reading the newspaper EM TEMPO of Sao Paulo, which also refuses to reveal the names of the organizations it represents.

Lula May Leave PT

Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] Brasilia--The parliamentarians who joined the PT may leave the party, Senator Henrique Santillo (PT-Goiás) warned yesterday, pointing out that that

will occur if what happened at the last meeting--"which was completely dominated by little groups of students who disdain the parliamentary course"--is repeated at the next assembly scheduled for April 13 and 14.

"If it continues that way, then the students will have undermined the party and we will have to leave it." He stressed that that is also the position of leader Luis Inacia da Silva, "Lula," who is now going to try, together with the parliamentarians, to return the PT to the hands of the workers.

He explained that the strategy already underway is to open the party founding registration book to the greatest possible number of workers so that they can overcome the influence of the students in the PT. By law, the one who approves the statutes, the manifesto and the program and elects the executive committee is the college of founders of the party that is being formed, in this case the PT, by organized groups of society. Only the students have those organized groups and for that reason are maneuvering the PT, although Lula is now quickly trying to form groups of workers in order to have the majority representation in the party, explained the senator.

Henrique Santillo criticized the students within the PT, adding that "those small groups are not concerned about the legal organization of the PT and disdain the parliamentary course, which does not politically fulfill the party."

His brother, Deputy Ademar Santillo, is in the same situation, together with the other deputies who joined the PT. In the last election, the Santillo brothers obtained one of the largest votes ever received in the electoral history of Goias, and have strong leadership within the opposition, which the Brazilian Labor Party (PTB) would try to capture in the event an impasse is reached within the PT. Up to now, one of the PTB's principal weak points is in the state of Goias, where it does not have any member from the parliamentary bloc.

8711

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

MILITARY MINISTERS VIEW DEMOCRATIZATION, PDS AFFILIATION

Air Minister Praises Progress

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 16 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] Air Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos said yesterday in Brasilia that the political liberalization promoted by President Joao Figueiredo "is a reality," noting that "even the opposition did not expect the government to reach the present point, with freedom of the press and a much broader amnesty than they were calling for."

He recalled that when the amnesty bill was voted on in the congress, national and foreign entities were saying that the proposal was a farce, and he added that today "there are no longer any political prisoners, even those accused of crimes of violence."

In the opinion of the minister, President Joao Figueiredo has made "great strides in the return to democratic normality." He emphasized that one of the last acts of the head of the government was the elimination of bipartisanship, which the opposition claimed was necessary for there to be a democratic regime in the country. "Today," said the minister, "pluripartisanship is being consistently opposed by the opposition which called so loudly for that need and is losing it."

The minister feels that the government has now done away with all the preferential laws and the opposition continues to attack the government in a difficult time of economic crisis "when we all have to unite to win that war against inflation." On that issue, he feels that the measures that the government has recently adopted will cause a substantial decline in inflation, until reaching the index desired for this year, which is 45 percent, although preferring to say that he is not a fortune teller, "but that the intention is to reach that figure."

Delio asserted that those measures will also affect the air force, but without the need for many cuts in its budget for this year.

Concerning a possible government coalition with Leonel Brizola to defeat the amendment of Deputy Edison Lobao which restores direct election for governors,

the minister said that there is no possibility of agreement. He emphasized that the government wants to reestablish the process of direct elections for the state governments, "but it will do so when the opportunity exists" and that therefore "the government wants credit for the idea."

Therefore the ministers feels the spirit of the amendment proposed by the deputy from Maranhao to be sound, but does not believe this is the right time for it to be put into effect. He added that he has never had doubts about the return to direct elections and that he has been talking about that for more than 2 years.

In a quick review of this first year of government, he considered the period peaceful: "It seemed that a storm was coming, with the return of the great majority of those who were outside the country, with complete freedom existing in Brazil, but everything has gone well."

On the other hand, the minister said that he does not believe in a ministerial reform, that a minister might leave "due to circumstances, but no one will leave as a result of a reform."

Finally, the minister asserted that he is staying away from political problems and is concerning himself more with air force matters, including a series of activities for which the ministry is responsible.

Maximiano Against Military in Politics

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 15 Feb 80 p 5

[Text] Admiral Maximiano da Fonseca, navy minister, stated yesterday in Sao Paulo that he is against the military on active duty joining political parties and confirmed that he will not join any party in spite of the fact that as a citizen he has decided to vote for the PDS [Social Democratic Party], the government party. After participating in the laying of the cornerstone of the monument to the Marquis of Tamandare, the patron saint of the navy, in Ibirapuera Park, the minister complained that some newspapers "are distorting" his statements on the socialist theses of the PDS.

Maximiano explained that he was sought out, several days previously, by a reporter who told him that the program of the PDS had "socialist traits," which he considered very good, "because socialism has many good things." Asked to mention one of them, the minister cited "the better distribution of wealth," but he refused to mention others because he felt that "to list everything is very dangerous."

Vice Adm Alfredo Karam, commandant of the 1st Naval District, who was accompanying the minister, also revealed himself to be opposed to the membership of active duty military in political parties. "The active duty military," he said, "has no political party, until he goes into the reserve." Upon being questioned whether he was against the army minister for having joined the PDS, Karam answered: "I am not against A, B, or C. Gen Walter Pires is a most

highly respected man; he is a government man, as I am. Opinions are free and I am giving him mine, as commandant of the 1st Naval District."

Army Minister On PDS

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 2 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] Brasilia--Army minister Gen Walter Pires de Albuquerque did not join the PDS [Social Democratic Party], but only approved its establishment when, with his air colleague, Brig Gen Delio Jardim de Matos, he signed the document establishing the party, according to top-ranking officials of the defunct ARENA [National Renewal Alliance].

In signing the document establishing the PDS, present as he was at the ceremony the day before yesterday in the room of the foreign affairs committee, Gen Walter Pires acted as minister of state and member of the government team, associating himself with the act of establishing a party which has the mission of supporting the government, according to party leaders such as Senator Jose Sarney.

A Precedent

Leaders of the defunct ARENA recalled that one can establish a party and not be a member of it, just as one can be a member without establishing it. The army minister, present at the ceremony establishing the party of the government to which he belongs, participated in the act establishing it but did not join the party.

A leader of the PDS recalled that when Filinto Muller was national chairman of the former ARENA, the then secretary general, former deputy and former minister Arnaldo Prieto, took the membership book to Gen Orlando Geisel, then chief of staff of the armed forces, who joined the ARENA together with officers of his staff, including the former secretary general of the Army Ministry, Gen Moacir Potiguara, and then Col Danilo Venturini--today a general on the president's military staff.

With his initiative in joining the defunct ARENA, Gen Orlando Geisel wanted to demonstrate his belief in democratic values, since the country was still experiencing moments of institutional uncertainty.

For the more important politicians of the PDS, the times are now quite different from those. The army minister did not join the PDS, but merely associated himself with the act of establishing the government support party, in a gesture of support for the president and the government to which he belongs. As chief of the ground forces, Gen Walter Pires cannot engage in political party activity.

Joining a party is a specific act which is accomplished by affixing one's signature to a party membership card, in the manner recognized by the electoral board. Only the membership card makes the person a member of a party.

The books of the former ARENA, with the membership of Gen Orlando Geisel, were recorded by the leadership of that party at the TSE [Supreme Electoral Court] from the moment the membership card was instituted.

EMPLOYMENT DROP REPORTED IN 10 AREAS CANVASSED MONTHLY

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Feb 80 p 18

[Text] Brasilia--The employment level in the sectors of industry, civil construction, commerce and services fell in December compared to November in all metropolitan regions surveyed monthly by the Labor Ministry, according to data released yesterday by the Employment and Wage Secretariat.

This was the only month during the entire year that the number of jobs fell in all regions. But, according to the chief of the Labor Ministry economics staff, Flavio Gori, this same drop was recorded in December of prior years. It occurs, he says, because of seasonal factors that affect the manufacturing industry especially, "which has its peak in September and October and falls in December, influencing the overall average because it carries a greater weight in production than the other sectors do."

According to statistics gathered by the National Employment System (SINE), the sharpest drops occurred in Curitiba (1.13 percent), Brasilia (1.03 percent) and Fortaleza (0.98 percent). Decreases reported in the other regions were as follows: Belem, 0.83 percent; Rio de Janeiro, 0.81 percent; Recife, 0.69 percent; Sao Paulo, 0.51 percent; Salvador, 0.49 percent; Belo Horizonte, 0.49 percent; and Porto Alegre, 0.39 percent.

Widespread Drop

The December SINE survey covered 3,846 firms in the four sectors of production and 2.67 million employees. The drop in the supply of jobs was reported in all sectors, but especially in civil construction (which had also been occurring in previous months) and in commerce.

In civil-construction the index rose only in Belem, by 0.10 percent. The biggest drops were in the Belo Horizonte and Brasilia regions: 4.63 percent and 4.25 percent, respectively.

The number of jobs in the commerce sector likewise increased in only one region, that one being Fortaleza, by 0.42 percent. The indices fell in the other regions by the following percentages: Curitiba, 3.60 percent; Recife,

2.09 percent; Belem, 1.63 percent; Porto Alegre, 1.49 percent; Brasilia, 1.03 percent; Belo Horizonte, 1.15 percent; Rio de Janeiro, 0.60 percent; Salvador, 0.56 percent; and Sao Paulo, 0.38 percent.

In the industrial sector there was growth only in Belo Horizonte and Brasilia, both at 0.18 percent. The largest drops were in Portaleza (1.58 percent), Belem, (1.11 percent) and Curitiba (1.07 percent). In the Greater Rio de Janeiro region the index was off 0.84 percent.

In the services sector the number of jobs increased in December compared to the previous month in Salvador (0.49 percent), Porto Alegre (0.21 percent) and Belo Horizonte (0.01 percent) and fell in all the other regions by percentages ranging from 0.47 percent (Belem) to 0.12 percent (Recife and Sao Paulo).

The SINE survey also shows the employment index in December compared to the same month of 1978, indicating the change over a year's time.

8834

CSO: 3001

NETTO REAFFIRMS 1980 EXPORT GOAL AMID CONFLICTING REPORTS

'Already an Absolute Certainty'

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 27 Feb 80 p 27

[Interview with Planning Minister Antonio Delfim Netto at Hyde Park Hotel, Knightsbridge, London, on 26 February by Claudio Kuck: "Delfim Reaffirms Goal of Exporting \$20 Billion"]

[Text] London--Planning Minister Delfim Netto asserted yesterday that the Brazilian goal of exporting \$20 billion this year "is already an absolute certainty."

In an interview granted O GLOBO while he was having breakfast in his suite at the Hyde Park Hotel in Knightsbridge before beginning his long day of appointments in the British capital, Delfim added that statements made by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas when he returned from New York were misinterpreted:

"We do not intend to increase the prices of our exports," he said, "but to defend them more strongly than in the past, keeping up with world inflation, which will be about 12 percent. This will not make them less competitive."

The planning minister asserted he is confident that Brazil will receive fair interest rates on future loans and that the rate of inflation will fall. He said international bankers need not fear any political or economic instability in Brazil, "where liberalization is proceeding smoothly and income distribution continues to improve."

Challenging predictions by 13 leading UK financial institutions, Delfim declared he does not expect a recession in Great Britain or the world, nor resumption of protectionist measures, commenting: "This business of making predictions is somewhat uncertain and hazardous."

Absolute Certainty

O GLOBO: If Brazil increases the prices of its exports, as Finance Minister Ernane Galveas stated when he returned from the United States, won't this jeopardize the competitiveness of Brazilian goods, making it harder to reach the 1980 export goal of \$20 billion?

Delfim: The objective of exporting \$20 billion is already an absolute certainty. There was some doubt about this in the United States, but I assure you they will now believe it. I don't think Minister Galveas should have expressed it the way he did. He should have said that we are going to defend our prices rigorously. We do not have a policy of increasing prices, but rather of maintaining them. Perhaps in the past we have not maintained them as rigorously as was necessary. But the \$20 billion is not based upon price increases greater than the worldwide inflation rate, which should be around 12 percent. This is the increase we expect for our exports. They will not lose competitiveness.

[O GLOBO] But won't the recession that is likely to affect several countries this year, including Great Britain, lead to a reduction of imports, a new wave of protectionism, thus jeopardizing Brazil's export objectives?

Delfim: I don't think there will be a recession this year. There will not be any recession in the United States, particularly in an election year. In Great Britain, all you need do is come here to see how wrong those predictions are. Inflation is running at 18 percent and there is no sign of a recession, no restrictive policy that would produce a recession.

[O GLOBO] Just recently we conducted a survey involving 13 leading British economic institutions, getting opinions from associations of economists, the Confederation of Industries and even the Bank of England. They all agreed there will be a recession, with a drop of between 0.5 percent and 2 percent in PNB [Gross National Product].

Delfim: The 13 predictions varied between 0.5 percent and 2 percent? Well, to say that it will not be a brilliant year, that there will be no growth, that is correct. But to infer from this that there will be a recession strikes me as going too far. If only because, when someone makes a prediction of 1/2 of 1 percent of the PNB, this means nothing. This is less than the error of measurement. There is no way to estimate the PNB within 1/2 of 1 percent. That would require measuring instruments more precise than any now available. If he says 1/2 of 1 percent, he might as well say zero. This is why I don't expect protectionism either.

Restrictions

[O GLOBO] I don't know whether you have had a chance to read today's paper yet. THE FINANCIAL TIMES says on the front page that the footwear industry and its labor union are demanding urgent government action against imports,

which captured 45 percent of the British footwear market in 1979. And they want, specifically, immediate restrictions on Brazilian, Polish and Czechoslovak shoes.

Delfim: But the opposite of what they are saying is taking place. The United States has now canceled the restrictions on Brazilian shoes, acknowledging--after study, naturally--that there is no reason to discriminate against us. I believe the same thing will happen in Britain. Furthermore, this is not a case of protectionism. They are making the false assumption that there are subsidies by the Brazilian government, something the Americans found out did not exist. Of course the British workers are complaining, but I don't see how Britain can impose any restriction.

[O GLOBO] What about credit to Brazil? The bankers we spoke with thought the 0.875 percent spread over the London interbank offered rate (LIBOR) that Brazil got on its last \$1 billion "jumbo" loan at the end of 1979 is a thing of the past and from now on we will not be able to get spreads of less than 1 percent. They are even talking about 1.25 percent.

Delfim: This is how I look at it: Brazil is in the market and it is just a small part of it. We cannot impose prices. Clearly, Brazil will pay what the market determines; no more, no less. It cannot determine either spreads or time periods; it is the market that determines this and we must adjust to it. We have had loans of 5 years--8, 10, 12--and now we are back to 6 or 8. Why is this? Because we adjust to the market. We do not make this market.

[O GLOBO] The LIBOR, which affects any loan, rose above 15 percent recently, placing a heavy burden on our debt servicing. Did the government expect this rise?

Delfim: As a matter of fact, this is not what the government expected. For that matter, neither did anyone else; ask those institutions that are predicting the recession you spoke of a while ago what interest rate they were expecting in January. They all expected it to fall. It all goes to show that this business of prediction is a very uncertain thing. There was a widespread belief that interest rates would fall, wasn't there? Which shows that unexpected factors are more significant than any prediction. Of course this rise in the LIBOR is undesirable and inconvenient. But we must also look at the positive side. Higher interest rates indicate higher inflation rates, which indicate higher export prices. Higher import prices, too, of course, but we have to look at the net result. In any event, I must admit that higher rates of interest mean higher costs for Brazil.

Optimism

[O GLOBO] What interpretation have you been giving the international bankers about the future of the Brazilian economy?

Delfim: Essentially, the message is that we are here to listen to them. To try to learn their view of the world in 1980. This is the big problem we have today. We have to find out what these people think will happen to the world economy. Today it is clear that everyone thinks inflation will be greater than previously expected. Interest rates will probably be a little higher, but I think they will return to earlier levels. And it seems to me that no one any longer expects a recession. We will also explain the Brazilian strategy--what we are doing. We have three problems: inflation, the balance of payments and adjusting the economy to the energy crisis. We will then explain that we are using agriculture as the major instrument to meet the three objectives: to increase food supply, reduce inflationary pressure and increase the supply of food and raw materials for export. In this way we will be solving inflation, solving the balance of payments problem and also producing in agriculture a little renewable energy so as to economize somewhat on petroleum imports.

[O GLOBO] Beyond these factors, it is felt in the City that there is some concern and foreboding about possibilities of political and social instability in Brazil. How do you view this?

Delfim: There is no possibility of social or political instability in Brazil. This will become quite clear to everyone. Brazil is pursuing liberalization, which is occurring very smoothly, and there is not the slightest chance of social or economic disturbance; furthermore, income distribution continues to improve.

[O GLOBO] Another big factor that worries bankers is Brazil's rising inflation. Will you give them any prediction of an inflation rate?

Delfim: They know, better than we, that inflation will be kept as low as possible. Anyone who has ever coped with inflation knows that this is the way it must be. We will keep it as low as possible. I think we have a good chance of reducing inflation below what it was last year.

Controversies

[O GLOBO] There is considerable controversy in London about how much money Brazil will have to borrow to solve its problems this year. Some mention \$18 billion; others, \$20 billion; some, over \$22 billion. What do you have to say about this?

Delfim: Everyone says what he wants. This is one of the characteristics of paper: it will accept anything you want to print on it. But when we talk to people, they understand that the figures we are submitting really represent the best estimate. That is, a renewal of \$7 billion of maturing debt and \$5 billion in new loans, together with \$2 billion in suppliers' credit and \$2 billion in direct foreign investment.

[O GLOBO] You will soon be meeting with the British ministers of industry, finance and trade. What will be your main objective in these interviews?

Delfim: The main objective will be to ask for a reduction of tariffs on Brazilian products, similar to what the Americans have done.

[O GLOBO] This doesn't seem to be the best time, as this very day the footwear industries are asking the government for more restrictions on Brazilian products.

Delfim: I don't think that makes any difference. Of course there are sectors that would like to have privileges, but in doing so they are working against their own British consumers. So far as I can see here, Britain's greatest concern is inflation. Then why not buy less expensive products in Brazil? The British economy, furthermore, is now beginning to acquire a more rational character than it had in the recent past. For all these reasons, I have great hopes that we will manage to reduce tariffs on Brazilian products.

[O GLOBO] There also is pressure now in the United Kingdom from labor and industry to import only knocked-down foreign cars to be assembled here, all of this within a general policy of protecting domestic production.

Delfim: Of course there is pressure, but it seems to me that Britain has gotten over this phase. There are no foreign-trade problems; it has reestablished a really free exchange rate; there is no balance of payments problem. With the pound rising in value, it must import; if not, all this will have been for naught.

[O GLOBO] For how long and how high will the Brazilian foreign debt increase?

Delfim: That is difficult to say. But this year, for example, it will increase by only \$5 billion. If it hits \$5 billion, it will be--discounting the problem of world inflation--less than it was before. Hence, it will soon have begun to recede.

January Trade Deficit Widens

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 28 Feb 80 p 34

[Text] Rio de Janeiro--Brazil's January trade deficit was \$482 million, compared to only \$196 million for the same month last year. This 146 percent increase in the trade deficit was due largely to higher imports, which were \$1.807 billion compared to \$1.208 billion in the first month of 1979. Exports for the month were \$1.325 billion in 1980 and \$1.012 billion last year. These data were reported here yesterday by Benedito Moreira, director of CACEX [Foreign Trade Department], who reaffirmed the prediction that foreign trade would be in balance this year at about \$20 billion, despite unfavorable results in this year's first quarter. The deficit is expected to remain high in February and March.

Moreira explained that after the expected agricultural harvests begin to be marketed in April, the deficit trend of the trade balance will be reversed

and average monthly totals of imports and exports will be, respectively, \$1.7 billion and \$1.6 billion.

Customs Duties

The CACEX director denied that he is studying revision of import duties. Reports from the export sector, however, indicate that the government will soon have to equalize tariffs to eliminate existing distortions resulting from some very high duties as well as some very low ones, not to mention exemptions now in force. Moreira himself admitted last year that only 18 percent of all Brazilian imports were paying duties.

Tariff "equalization," according to sector sources, is the government's only solution to restrict imports, since the idea of imposing quantitative controls on Brazilian purchases was discarded for fear of eventual reprisals by our trading partners.

The CACEX director again warned about the need for foreign companies with subsidiaries in Brazil to participate more actively in the government effort to reduce the deficit in current transactions (merchandise and services). He mentioned that he has been meeting regularly with these companies to discuss the matter. They have also been warned that the government will not tolerate speculative hoarding.

Exporters Optimistic

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 28 Feb 80 p 25

[Text] The president of the Brazilian Exporters Association (AEB), Laerte Setubal, said yesterday that the growth of Brazilian exports (excluding coffee, the increase was 38 percent in January over the same month last year) is a clear indication it will be possible to meet the government's goal of \$20 billion for the year, even though this will mean an increase of 33 percent over the \$15 billion exported last year.

"It must be borne in mind," he stressed, "that we achieved a 31 percent sales increase in January, which is midwinter in Europe and the United States, a season when economic activity is naturally restricted. It may thus be assumed that the government's goal is being reached."

'Conditioning' the Buyer

In regard to statements by Finance Minister Ernane Galveas that it will be necessary to raise prices of Brazilian exported goods in order to cope with increased Euromarket interest rates, the AEB president asserted that this should not cause problems in competing with goods from other countries. He explained that, clearly, prices of all export goods will not be raised, but only those whose prices are still relatively low.

"Naturally," he said, "there is no exporter who would not like to raise the prices of his goods. But in this instance that is not the point. The fact

is that there is an opportunity to raise prices of some products. Moreover, the mere fact of expressing the intention to raise prices is already positive, because if the buyer accepts the idea of an increase, the first step has been taken. From that point on, the problem is to discuss the 'quantum' of the increase."

Credit

In reference to credit for exports, rates for which were substantially re-adjusted with elimination of National Monetary Council Resolution 515, Laerte Setubal pointed out that "it is preferable that the cost of money be a little higher, providing that it is available."

The AEB president explained that when Resolution 515 was in effect the government itself restricted credit because the interest rates were so highly subsidized. He added that having subsidized credit led to surcharges being imposed by importing countries. He cited the example of pig iron, which was subject to a surcharge of 24 percent that has dropped to only 2 percent since the subsidy was removed.

Regarding the amount of money that should be made available to meet the needs of exporters, Setubal said he thinks \$6 billion "would be an ideal amount." He acknowledges, however, that the amount of money made available for this purpose by the government is not likely to exceed 30 percent of that amount, or \$1.2 billion [sic].

8834

CSO: 3001

LANGONI ANNOUNCES \$500 MILLION DECLINE IN RESERVES

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 1 Mar 80 p 19

[Text] Central Bank President Carlos Geraldo Langoni revealed yesterday that "Brazil lost over \$500 million in reserves during January, with their level now a little above \$9.2 billion." According to Langoni, "the drop was expected, because it is seasonal (the nation lost \$500 million in January of 1978 and 1979) and because monetary authorities wanted to reduce the financial market's liquidity."

Langoni explained that Planning Minister Delfim and Finance Minister Galveas have decided to assure the stability of reserves. But international market conditions, now "unfavorable due to the unfolding of the Iranian crisis and the invasion of Afghanistan," suggested that "we not be hasty in making new loans." This, together with the January trade deficit of \$482 million and other balance-of-payments commitments, forced consumption of part of the reserves.

The Central Bank president stressed that the decision to lose reserves was taken "with the specific purpose of absorbing December's excessive monetary expansion, for better control of the money supply." But he revealed that "Brazil will soon return to the international financial market, through a 10-year \$250 million loan being negotiated by PETROBRAS [Brazilian Petroleum Corporation] with a syndicate of international banks."

Without giving more details about the transaction, Langoni limited himself to announcing that "the terms are quite favorable." Asked whether he wasn't worried by the January trade balance figures, and whether the possible continuation of the unfavorable performance until the end of the first quarter--due to lack of grain to export--could not cause a greater loss of reserves, weakening the nation's solvency ratios, the Central Bank president ruled out such a possibility.

He said that "coffee exports rebounded in February and manufactured exports will continue to increase," which will reduce the monthly deficits. He expects surpluses beginning in April when marketing of crops will begin and "with firm control of imports by the public sector, according to the CDE [Economic Development Council] budget."

He also said he believes Eurodollar rates will again fall, "as they did in 1974," stressing that "Brazil will continue administering its foreign debt in the best way possible, depending upon prevailing conditions," explaining that the minimum period of 8 years and the spread of 7/8 percent "are subject to a dynamic process."

BRAZILIAN ENERGY MODEL CALLED INADEQUATE

Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 17 Feb 80 p 33

[Article by Jose Goldemberg: The Brazilian Energy Model]

[Text] Mines and Energy Minister Cesar Cals has not tired of repeating, ever since he took office, that his first task would be to prepare "a Brazilian energy model" which he would submit for the analysis and critical examination of the entire nation.

Indeed the minister traveled the country from top to bottom in a series of symposia organized by a journalistic enterprise in an attempt to popularize his "model." Many of those symposia were restricted to the presentation of lectures that were little interrelated. Nevertheless the preparation of the "Energy Model" appears to be the most important achievement of the Ministry of Mines and Energy since early 1979, and apparently it has given rise to internal disputes over its paternity.

Since it has finally been published, it is possible for nonprivileged observers to study it and present criticisms and suggestions. In the last few years, energy plans have fallen into some discredit, since they ended up being characterized as mere propaganda instead of being a serious planning guide. When he took over his duties, the current minister seemed to be sincerely committed to expanding the basis of discussion and, with that more modest attitude, to joining efforts in the search for possible solutions.

Unfortunately, the recently published "Brazilian Energy model" does not live up to these expectations.

The first observation that can be made on the document is that it is not a model in the usual sense of the word, but simply a set of goals; a "model" presupposes an analysis based on symptoms and other indicators, on the basis of which explanations are formulated for a certain behavior or for certain facts; time will tell whether the model is good or bad. One example of this is the model of Brazilian development based on the influx of foreign capital bringing resources and technology, the consequent exporting of raw materials and semimanufactured products, and the development of a strong middle class in the country.

The energy model does not have these characteristics. It simply takes the present consumption of energy (in its different forms) and extrapolates what the consumption will be in 1985, without any analysis of who consumes and for what purpose it is consumed. The result is clear and very discouraging, because in the case of petroleum it corresponds to an increase in consumption of close to 40 percent (from 1.16 million barrels in 1980 to 1.5 million barrels in 1985), an increase of nearly 7 percent a year. Taking this information to be fundamental--that is, considering the demand to be fixed--estimates are made of the contribution of various alternative sources which might replace petroleum, such as coal, wood, alcohol, shale, etc. The results are given below.

CONSUMPTION OF PETROLEUM AND SUBSTITUTES

(in equivalent barrels of petroleum)

SOURCE	1980	1985
Alcohol	55,000 (4.7%)	155,000 (10.1%)
Coal	4,000 (0.3%)	170,000 (12.2%)
Wood	12,000 (1%)	120,000 (8%)
Shale	0	25,000 (1.5%)
Solar energy	0	15,000 (1%)
Brazilian petroleum (1)	195,000 (17%)	231,000 (15.2%)
Brazilian petroleum (2)	6,000 (0.5%)	127,000 (8.3%)
Brazilian petroleum (3)	0	142,000 (9.4%)
Subtotal	272,000 (23.6%)	985,000 (65.7%)
Imported petroleum	892,000 (76.4%)	516,000 (34.1%)
Total	1,164,000 (100%)	1,503,000* (100%)

(1) Fields in operation; (2) Fields about to go into operation; (3) New discoveries.

*Total conservation of energy corresponding to 200,000 barrels of petroleum is incorporated in the projections for 1985.

What is hoped will happen in 1985 is a GOAL and not the result of specific measures taken in 1980; these goals could be considered as "hopes" or suppositions. There are no other words to describe a situation in which the production of coal increases from the equivalent of 4,000 barrels a day in 1980 to 170,000 in 1985, that is, an increase of 42-fold; wood increases 10-fold, and Brazilian oil production from "fields about to go into production" increases from 6,000 barrels a day to 127,000, in addition to 147,000 new barrels coming from "new discoveries." Consequently, imported petroleum would drop from 892,000 barrels a day to 516,000.

It does not appear useful to us to make extrapolations such as these, unless it is stated how one intends to achieve them. The only case in which this was done in the country is that of alcohol, whose production of 55,000 barrels a day in 1980 will increase to 150,000 in 1985.

Finally, it is fitting to observe that it is not possible to discuss the energy problem as if it were just a problem of supply, but also a problem of demand. This demand is not as unalterable as it is believed to be, and it can be modulated and oriented. Mr Cals' "Energy Model" not only fails to concern itself with this problem, but does not even try to determine why the demand is increasing in the manner in which it is increasing in Brazil. Without a better understanding of this problem, it is not even possible to make a thorough diagnosis of the Brazilian energy crisis.

The paper becomes a set of intentions and desires without even setting priorities.

7428

CSO: 3001

BRAZIL

GUERREIRO SUPPORTS LATIN AMERICA ENERGY COMMON MARKET

Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] Mexico City--Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said yesterday that Brazil is "ready to discuss" a plan for the formation of a Latin American common market in the field of energy. The Brazilian foreign minister noted that a project of that type must be reconciled with the interest of all the countries in the region.

His statements were heard on the "Univision" program and the "24 Hours" news program on the Channel 2 Network, the largest in Mexico, in an exclusive interview granted in Brasilia to reporter Abraham Zabludovsky.

"We always favor all types of cooperation and integration between the countries of Latin America that is possible to reconcile with the interests of all, based on a real consensus," stressed Foreign Minister Guerreiro, in reply to a question on the Brazilian position regarding a Latin American energy market in which Venezuela, Mexico and Ecuador would furnish oil on a priority basis to the Latin American countries.

Guerreiro noted that he was not aware of any specific project in that regard. He pointed out, however, that he has noted the willingness of Mexico and Venezuela to supply the necessary oil to Brazil and Latin America in general. "That is not an easy task but we will always be prepared to consider the idea," he declared.

The foreign minister said that the Brazilian Government has not signed any agreement with the United States to join in the grain boycott against the Soviet Union. The Mexican reporter mentioned the presence in Brasilia of President Jimmy Carter's special envoy, General Andrew Goodpaster, and the Brazilian minister pointed out that at no time did the U.S. Government ask Brazil to join in the boycott. He denied also that there had been any pressure from the United States.

"There were no pressures," he declared, "it was an information meeting. With regard to the embargo, we were not even asked to participate in it. We explained that we will continue to carry out normal trade with the Soviet

Union. On the other hand, we do not have any special plan of action with a view to thwarting the U.S. boycott. That is not our intention because for one thing it would not be in the framework of our normal trade with the Soviet Union.

Foreign Minister Guerreiro said that the forthcoming nuclear agreement Brazil will sign with Argentina "is not a matter of specific collaboration." According to him both countries have cooperation plans in that area with other Latin American countries. "There is no idea either in Argentina or Brazil of doing anything secret, exclusivist or with any aims other than to join efforts to become more efficient in the development of nuclear technology for strictly peaceful purposes," he added.

"Our idea," he continued, "is to conclude a type of cooperation agreement, a legal framework for collaboration in that sector." The foreign minister explained that there is a great area for cooperation between Brazil and Argentina because the two countries devoted themselves to different experiments, which now creates the possibility of technological complementation. He pointed out that there is no political inhibition on either side and that the nuclear agreement to be signed dispels speculations about rivalries between Brazil and Argentina.

The foreign minister said it is in the interest of Brazil to buy Mexican oil even though he stressed that Brazil's relations with Middle Eastern suppliers are good, "even excellent." He asserted that Brazil has not had problems with oil suppliers but supported diversification of the sources of supply, a measure which he termed "intrinsically useful and necessary."

He said that the visit of President Jose Lopez Portillo to Brazil "is of the greatest importance" because it will serve as a stimulus to broadening economic and trade relations "which can be much more varied and closer than they have been up to now."

Foreign Minister Saraiva Guerreiro said that Brazilian foreign policy is based on principles--notably those established in the UN Charter--that coincide with the positions of the countries of the Third World. "But it is not automatically the same policy," he explained. He stressed that Brazil "is a Western and a Third World country."

"We are both and there is no incompatibility between them. We are a developing country but we have many historical and ideological connections with the West. However, we seek to follow a policy that seeks to reflect the situation of the country, a developing country," he said.

Guerrero said that his government has not yet decided about Brazilian participation in the Moscow Olympic Games. He stressed that the decision has to be taken jointly by the government and sports officials of the Brazilian Olympic Committee. He added that the matter is being considered at the present time. He regretted that sports are often mixed with politics, pointing out that that comixture has occurred with "relative frequency" in the history of the Olympic games.

BRIEFS

SÃO PAULO LIVING COSTS--The cost of living for a wage-earning family in the city of São Paulo increased an average of 4.4 percent in January, compared to 5.12 percent in January 1979, according to a survey conducted by the Interunion Department of Statistics and Socioeconomic Studies (DIEESE), which also reported an average increase of 69.8 percent in the cost of living over the last 12 months. According to DIEESE, food, household supplies and personal care products were the items that increased the most this January, at rates of 6.1 percent, 5.4 percent and 5.3 percent, respectively. Among foods, the products that increased the most were cereal, pasta and flour (9.4 percent), sundry meals (9.3 percent), green vegetables (8.9 percent) and fish (8 percent). DIEESE also reports that the largest price increases in the last 12 months were for transportation, 107.5 percent, and food, 85.2 percent. Among foods, fats and condiments, meat and derivatives, milk and derivatives and fish had the biggest price increases, with 105 percent, 98.8 percent, 93.5 percent and 90.9 percent, respectively. [Excerpt] [São Paulo O ESTADO DE SÃO PAULO in Portuguese 26 Feb 80 p 30] 8834

POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED--The Pernambuco penitentiary council, which normally meets on Monday and Thursday, called a special session for today to free immediately the last state political prisoners, Rholine Sonde Cavalcanti and Luciano Almeida, held in the Barreto Campelo penitentiary in Itamaraca. This information is from the head of the civil government office, Margarida Cantarelli. The two were the beneficiaries of the decision of the Superior Military Tribunal (STM), which upheld the decree of the judge of the 7th Military Judicial District (CJM), Theodulo Miranda, granting conditional freedom. The sentences of Luciano (25 years, 4 months) and of Rholine (32 years, 2 months, 20 days) were reduced by the new national security law and by the pardon decree, since unified. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Feb 80 p 4] 7428

CSO: 3001

PRESIDENT CARAZO DEFENDS FREEDOM OF PRESS

PA191314 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1611 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by President Rodrigo Carazo to Inter-American Press Association meeting at National Theater in San Jose--live]

[Excerpts] Members of the legislative assembly, distinguished members of the diplomatic corps, delegates to the Inter-American Press Association semiannual meeting, ladies and gentlemen, dear students:

Welcome. It fills me with satisfaction to see you here and for you to meet here in our climate of freedom so that you can display your intellect, express your opinions as you wish and say what you feel. There is so much freedom of the press in Costa Rica, it is so broad, open and complete, that anyone can say what he wishes even if it is not the truth. Every day shows the obvious freedom of the press in Costa Rica, in which even lies can be published. In fact, there are people who think freedom of the press means having the opportunity to lie, slander, deceive and falsify.

I have seen this at close range, and that is why I know how far freedom of the press goes in Costa Rica. Freedom of the press in Costa Rica is such that I once personally experienced the problem of having been slandered. I went to court to seek protection for my human rights and to regain respect for my dignity, but when the newsman who invented the falsehood could find no way out, when it was apparent he would be found guilty, it was enough for me to have him say privately in the courts: "I retract." Thus, he was free of all blame and free to again enjoy freedom of the press.

Welcome. Here freedom of the press is absolute--so much so that the good name of a person can be muddled with impunity, by merely saying, "I retract," in private, almost in secret, with the offender remaining at full liberty to continue to sully people's names without assuming any responsibility of any kind.

Welcome. I have dedicated my time today to share with you all the time that is necessary to tell you what I feel about freedom of the press for all, and to fight for it with all the vigor of my determination, fight for it for the good of democracy and the freedom of man.

I have decided to share with you, and you have allowed me to, all the time that is necessary to accompany you in your struggle for freedom of the press.

Welcome. Thank you for having allowed me to share this struggle for freedom of the press. I repeat: My duty is to take advantage of this opportunity that, only thanks to my post, is presented to me.

Years ago men were shaped in their homes, their schools and their communities. In our times modern communications have turned the world into a single environment. Man is trained, educated and acquires culture under the influence of the modern communications media. The media of our times are a determining factor in guiding and shaping contemporary society; hence the media's responsibility. The media can construct or destroy the values of a society. It all depends on how these media are used, who uses them and what for.

We are in the midst of extremely rapid change in all fields, in all disciplines. The world is advancing quickly, in a state of permanent change. Students and scientists are also forced to view, also quickly, these changes and their effects. But the truth is that change is made by mankind, be it good or negative. We are constantly confusing our "todays" each today. This is happening within a structure environment of today's society and on the basis of people's education.

All educators are responsible for what they do and say. Hence the enormous responsibility of the media, the great educator of our times. What enormous responsibility--that of destroying with tainted information that which the home, the school, the community, society, morals, culture, religion, the intellect and the spirit are making great efforts to shape. Is this the responsibility of shaping a better man? Using the institutions and the material and technological advances made by mankind?

Let us fight for freedom of press as a means of exercising the duty to inform the people. Let us fight for freedom of press as an instrument that will allow us to inform the people well. Let us fight for freedom of press as a social institution that will allow the communicator to educate. Let us fight for freedom of press to augment [words indistinct] of credibility. Let us believe that superficiality and [words indistinct] that saturate man's ability to wonder.

Let us fight for a freedom of the press that will permit us to choose [word indistinct] opinions in the face of the interests of diverse sectors of society, ideology, individual conduct, or let us expose

ourselves to the use and abuse of a freedom of the press that promotes lies and fallacies, that serves economic, political and social interests, since this type of freedom of press--and we all know it--is not freedom, but monopoly--the privilege of a few. Let us fight for a journalism which, by being serious and constructive, is truthful and scholarly and which at last acquires the morality that gives it the authority to be critical.

[PA191949] Let us fight for freedom of speech published in the press, and allow me to do it together with you, gentlemen of the Inter-American Press Association [IAPA]. May there be an end to the papers at the service of those who harangue the people, wasting the resources of all the members of the IAPA. May there be an end to the daily waste of those who wrong nations, wasting everyone's resources with lies and destructive words. May there be construction with work. Let it not be said, as I have been told, that the press is not for the publication of positive or creative issues, since this would be propaganda for someone, but that the press is to point out the bad things, to criticize negatively.

Let us fight for freedom of the press that serves to criticize, but above all, to build.

In this era, when cultural, scientific, economic, social and political knowledge dominates and develops in an accelerated way, the press must always be included in each field in order to prevent education from being imparted by know-it-alls. These are people who give opinions about everything, changing not only issues, but fields of human knowledge from one day to the next, from one page to another on the same day, with a superficiality that makes one shudder.

Let us fight for freedom of the press that will allow the public to absorb--at least partially--the voluminous information that is produced today in diverse fields.

Let there not be sensationalism or yellow journalism that fills the space, because this space is paid for by society, readers and consumers.

May freedom of the press not be used to exploit the sensitivity of the people's souls.

Let us fight for freedom of the press that emphasizes human progress and not the one that misinforms the people only showing them immorality and scandal.

I have repeated a lot what I learned years ago. The victories of men are frequently only written in the sports pages of newspapers. Today I add: The other pages are rife with criticism, negativism, failure, destruction, war, sickness, error and death. If the life of a human was what takes place in a newspaper, it would be difficult to be proud of being a man and it would be impossible to believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God.

Let us fight for a freedom of press conducted with responsibility, one that also transmits--at least once in a while--constructive opinions.

Let us fight for a freedom of press for everything that [words indistinct] space and for the defense from slander of the press [words indistinct] space for he who has need to opine but does not have the economic, cultural, social or logistical capability.

Let us fight for freedom of the press that is not the monopoly of a handful and in which the peasant, generally silent and sacrificed, is [words indistinct] on an equal basis with leaders of urban labor unions or the [words indistinct].

In conclusion, Mr Delegates, I wish you a happy stay in Costa Rica, fruitful results of your meetings, success in your endeavors, and I give you my assurances that this battle in which you and I are engaged will end in freedom of the press for all.

CSO: 3010

COSTA RICA

'LA NACION' DISCUSSES FUTURE OF NICARAGUA

PA261343 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 21 Mar 80 p 14A PA

[Editorial: "Where Is Nicaragua Headed"]

[Text] The official visit by an ostentatious Nicaraguan Government delegation to Moscow, where they were received with all honors, and the signing by both sides of a number of agreements that include technological and scientific advice as well as commercial agreements, once again brings forth in many hemispheric and Costa Rican political circles the question of where Nicaragua is headed. Nonetheless, that visit coincides with two developments that serve as points of reference. One is the current effort, about to culminate successfully, to defrost the \$75 million loan for Nicaragua, which the U.S. Congress has already approved. The other is the bitter and almost desperate speech that Fidel Castro delivered at the People's National Assembly on the devastating panorama of the Cuban economy. In the speech he affirmed that Cuba subsists thanks to Soviet aid, but he complained that the lack of celerity and volume of this aid, as well as about the stagnation of his country, which seems to be sinking in a sea of difficulties.

Cuba's current situation, more than two decades after the communist revolution, shows the scope of what Moscow can do for Nicaragua. There is no doubt that regardless of how much the Nicaraguan Government's foreign policy may open in all directions and whether it obtains from the Soviet Union a number of favorable agreements, its fate, which is the fate of "its" revolution and of "its" change, cannot go beyond the limits of its geopolitical situation. The pretension of certain pro-Soviet Marxists of breaking Latin America's geopolitical fatality--which many Sandinist leaders probably share--is dramatically denied by Cuba, which after 22 years of socialism has been unable to break through and has done nothing but socialize its misery.

Nonetheless, the Nicaraguan Government's rapprochement with Moscow must not be viewed skeptically. If the U.S. policy toward Central America does not soon acquire greater coherence and decisiveness in the form of true economic aid that makes possible a democratic change in freedom and the construction of more just political and social systems in those republics that need it, it

is possible that this process may become much more convulsive and that there may be the risk of radicalization of the groups promoting structural changes.

Alongside the more radical Sandinist groups, there are in Nicaragua other groups of exclusively democratic inspiration which, without rejecting change within a framework of freedom--as postulated by government junta member Alfonso Robelo Callejas--are struggling to keep this change within a democratic, pluralist and open framework which corresponds with the Nicaraguan people's historical evolution.

The fate of a revolution waged by all of that country's sectors depends to a large extent on the help and the relations that the hemispheric democracies, with the United States at their head, provide to and maintain with Nicaragua and on the favorable climate that the Nicaraguan people may find in their struggle to achieve their democratic development. If the struggle waged against despotism was pluralist, the society emerging from that bloody and huge national effort must also be pluralist and free.

CSO: 3010

UNITY PARTY LEADER DISCUSSES CALDERONISM

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 27 Feb 80 p 4

[Interview with Unity Party Secretary General Mario Romero Arrendo, by Wilmer Murillo: "Calderonism Will Bungle if 'Junior's Candidacy Not Sought;" date and place not given]

[Text] The Calderonist sector of the Unity Party [PU] appears to want to steer the current vague and uncertain situation toward antiliberationism, toward an opening which will reestablish its former power or permit it to name a Calderonist candidate and put him in the presidency of the republic. In no other way can we interpret its repeated slogan, directed toward voting and electing and not having to choose, as in the past, between inappropriate candidacies and abstention.

Foreign Relations Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier is expected to offer his resignation in order to take up the perilous and exciting commitment of again rousing the Calderonist force which, in its moment of splendor, received 86 percent of the vote and, upon occasion after the fall, could still vote for and put men into the presidency.

The history of the last 5-year periods offers many examples of frustrated openings. Every time that the possibility of assuming power appeared on the horizon, the combined political forces interrupted the game. They began anew only to fail once more and then continue to grope for a difficult outcome.

What, in reality, is Calderonism? A political party, or an idea, or a group of Dr Calderon Guardia's nostalgic and obstinate followers. It is an impressive political reality in terms of people and popular emotions, and it lives and subsists through its adherence to a chief who has already vanished. Mario Romero Arrendo, secretary general of the PU coalition, interviewed this week, answers certain questions.

[Question] What is Calderonism?

[Answer] Calderonism is a political sentiment deeply rooted in the minds of thousands of Costa Ricans who experienced social reform during the administration of Calderon Guardia and who believe it to be a remedy for the people's

pain and misery, not arising from class hatred or violence, and who, moreover, retain the firm hope that the work accomplished at that time may continue.

[Question] What has been the historic role played in Costa Rica by Calderonism?

[Answer] The social reform experienced by Costa Ricans during Dr Calderon Guardia's government, which was undoubtedly a far-reaching step in the establishment of Costa Rican nationality and in the guarantee of its progress and culture, permitting the underprivileged to have the benefit of their legitimate rights. A single precedent was promoted in our country, that of Mexico which was expressed in terms of a bloody revolutionary process. We established highly influential institutions, and others were planned which, in time, became true conquests by the Costa Rican people. But recently, Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier promoted and succeeded in getting a nontaxable pension arrangement included in the family-allowance system.

[Question] Is Calderonism currently following a line of conduct based on the idea of bringing a genuine Calderonist to power, like Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon "Junior," son of the founder of that movement?

[Answer] Not as an imposition; to get a clear picture, we need to make a serious analysis of the historic moment we are now experiencing. We believe that Calderon Fournier's eventual candidacy would definitely strengthen the conformation of the PU as a real alternative for peaceful progress in Costa Rica. President Carazo is currently being criticized precisely because he has taken on the enormous responsibility of changing a situation, a task which is not easy; nor can it be accomplished overnight, particularly when we are faced also with a serious international crisis. The PU is the best political alternative Costa Ricans have and must win the next elections; the current administration will not be able to make all the changes and carry out all the work necessary to project our institutionality and democracy into the future.

[Question] Is it an odious recollection for Calderonists to have brought candidates to the presidency with their "hope" but without being a true movement in power?

[Answer] I believe that at present Calderonism prefers to look ahead rather than back. Calderonism has never sought power for the sake of power itself. The deeply rooted sentiment of which I have already spoken has enabled the movement to remain strongly united even under the most adverse conditions. It is worthy of note that the 30 years spent almost completely divorced from power, far from weakening Calderonism, has strengthened it with the arrival of new generations which believe in the honesty and pragmatism of its doctrinary principles. This being the case, I do not believe there is an odious recollection, since many positive achievements were made by the governments Calderonism helped to elect. Perhaps there were not many individual positions, but important institutions were created and presidents were elected who were serious, responsible and of irreproachable honesty.

[Question] If a Calderonist candidate should win out as a PU candidate, would the PU resume its fight on behalf of the underprivileged; would it try to make new and drastic changes in the labor laws; would it advocate giving more power to union sectors?

[Answer] We have always done so in the government and in the opposition. There is a considerable group of fellow deputies currently devoting time to the study and revision of the labor laws, which are to be updated. We are concerned over the economic situation into which hasty action by former administrations has plunged the CCSS [Costa Rican Social Security Institute]; over the fact that, since 1963, the INVU [National Institute of Housing and City Planning] has almost stopped dealing with the housing problem by denying it the financing which, by constitutional mandate, it was obliged to provide. Also, jointly with engineer Juan Francisco Montealegre, work is being done on a plan which would again make the INVU a real answer to the problem.

It is imperative to promote and strengthen a democratic unionism whose proposals would truly be a defense of workers' rights and whose fundamental concern would be to bring about lasting social peace.

[Question] How should the PU coalition select the presidential candidate? Is it certain that it will seek the summary procedure of consensus to facilitate "Junior's" election?

[Answer] It is absolutely false that we are seeking the summary procedure of consensus to select a PU candidate. On the contrary, we believe that the principles of the people's participation, proclaimed by the party, should become a reality precisely at the time the candidate is chosen. We favor a universal convention, that is, one held in the 80 cantons and 400 districts of the republic in which the only requirement made of the voter would be to be willing to be a PU member.

[Question] Are the Calderonists convinced that, after having contributed to Rodrigo Carazo's victory, they have the right to exercise power? Or what choice will they make if opposition candidacies again emerge?

[Answer] Our conviction consists rather, and as we have already indicated, in that a Calderonist candidate is the most suitable for the party and for the country. A possible "non-Calderonist" candidate would have to be chosen by a large convention where the verdict of the majority would be respected and observed.

[Question] Do you believe that, if Calderonism again succumbs to other political and economic forces which prevent it from offering its own candidate in 1982, the movement will be definitely isolated and liquidated?

[Answer] I believe that only a betrayal of our social Christian political principles could isolate or liquidate the movement. We respect the result of the PU convention held in 1977. Respecting the will of the majority is part of those principles.

[Question] Is Calderonism a leftist or a rightist movement? It has an ideology. It has conservatives and leftists in its midst. Does it feed from both extremes?

[Answer] It is a movement which is predominantly Costa Rican. Our social Christian thinking is an intermediate point between right and left, as though we had taken the best from each doctrine and combined the two elements into a third hybrid position. Our way of thinking transcends either of those two positions, first, because its historical doctrinal antecedents predate the existence of left and right and, secondly, because its starting point is totally original: it is the human being, understood as the subject, foundation and purpose of society. In addition, there are other values which are equally important: harmony and justice. Social Christian thinking, as we understand it, is in no way an invitation to "paternalistic charity," as if it were sufficient to provide alms. It is a matter of an ideal inspired by the strongest sentiments of justice and love for one's fellow human being, aimed at achieving, through strict adherence to our democratic traditions, an adequate state of order in our Costa Rican society.

[Question] Do you believe that hostility within the PU to "Junior's" candidacy would weaken the stability of the coalition?

[Answer] Rafael Angel Calderon is a man of the center, impartial, mature and with political experience. I am sure that any pre-conventional campaign he would make would be a true reflection of those attributes and never the cause for hostile acts against the opposition. Unlike the 1977 convention, that designed to select the candidate for 1981 will be carried out by comrades who have had a decisive role in PU administration. Before that, we did not know each other. Now we are united by the well-known friendliness of the 1978 campaign and, especially, by the firm intention of converting the PU into a permanent political party, of clear-cut ideological definition. I firmly believe that there will be no room for hostility in our party's pre-conventional campaign.

[Question] Supposing Calderon's candidacy is blocked, or the PU is divided through lack of support for its movement; do you not believe that it will still be in a bad way?

[Answer] PU's unity has its origin and strength in the party bases; therefore, I believe it impossible for the PU to become divided. Its leadership is fully aware of that reality and is working intensely to try to achieve what is its greatest desire. Within a very few days, the legislative subcommittee which is studying a bill designed to permit a number of parties to fuse into a single party will return a favorable judgment. We PU deputies will do our best to see that the comrades of other parties in the assembly understand that, in approving this bill, our system of democracy and political freedom will be strengthened by legislating on aspects which, not being contemplated in our electoral code, would otherwise limit that freedom of participation in which we take so much pride.

[Question] Lastly, would you say that, if Calderonism does not strive to come up with a presidential candidacy per se and lets itself be dragged down by pressures, it will be bungling its principles and burying itself forever?

[Answer] We are seeking a candidacy on the basis of our principles with the firm intention of making them a reality. In our opinion, Rafael Angel Calderon symbolizes and embodies those principles; therefore, not trying to achieve his presidential candidacy would, in truth, be bungling.

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CSO: 3010

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT INTERVIEWED ON PARTY'S FUTURE

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 13 Feb 80 p 4

[Interview with Dr Rafael Alberto Grillo, DC president, by Wilmer Murillo: "Christian Democracy Is Party of the Future"]

[Text] The next decade can be, in addition to many other things, a decade of political change in the organization and effectiveness of political parties or a decade of decisions against some parties and in favor of other weakened parties. This could happen because some are not functioning well or because, due to their old age, they do not want to change.

The crisis will provoke a general revision in this decade of our political structure which is now in the process of experimentation or decrepitude, in the opinion of some observers.

At this historical time, the displacement of parties and the formation of a political force capable of giving the country a type of bipartisan political system is perhaps predictable and inevitable. Will the DC [Christian Democracy] agree with that main idea, that alternative? Or will the current parties, with a clear vision of their fate, be capable of recognizing those dangers and overcoming confusion to continue participating in our political process and prevent the strangulation of our democratic model?

Our subject this week is Dr Rafael Alberto Grillo, DC president. He answered some of these questions and indicated the prospects for the DC in our country.

[Question] Do you believe that the DC will be called upon to play an essential role in Costa Rican politics in the coming years?

[Answer] Not only will it be called upon to play that role, but it is and has played it. It should be noted that when the Unidad coalition was formed, the basic principles of Social Christian doctrine were used. The DC bases its policy on those principles.

[Question] Do you feel that the DC could adapt its ideology and form a government on its own in the traditional electoral structure? Or do you sincerely believe that it is difficult for you to even affect the existing system?

[Answer] It is important to make it clear that the DC as an ideological party does not necessarily try to win as a party but to win for its principles and its solutions for the problems of the country. We firmly believe in the education of the Costa Rican electorate. In that sense, we propose to take our message to the largest number of Costa Ricans possible so that the Costa Ricans will be better able to decide what is best for them. We adapt ourselves within the capitalistic structure in our search for the changes that we believe are necessary to achieve the Social Christian political plan.

[Question] DC parliamentary action has had little effectiveness in the opinion of some political observers. Do you believe that, through that passivity that is attributed to the DC, it has been possible to mount a good organization that could be known as a renovating political force capable of interpreting popular aspirations?

[Answer] It is true that externally we have never been interested in entering political debates. On the contrary, we have been concerned with exhaustively analyzing, through the perspective of our philosophy, the different bills that have been presented. We have tried to orient the bills of the Unidad party within this same philosophy and, in the present circumstances, make the necessary changes in some bills under discussion and in the preparation of new bills to orient government policy and action toward a clearer definition of the Social Christian solution to national problems.

[Question] Some believe that Costa Rica has bowed to the pressure of political interests and party machines so that the citizen has lost his freedom of choice. Before the people choose their representatives, they have already been appointed or elected. What is the role that the DC is asked to play in this situation?

[Answer] One of the basic principles of our ideology is participation. We believe that it has three important phases: 1) decision making; 2) development of action; and 3) participation in the benefits. The Unidad party and, therefore, the DC as participant in this coalition are determined to end the traditional way of only presenting a few choices for the different levels of national political life. It is an effort that makes those of us who believe in it communicate to the Costa Rican people our sincere desire for everyone to participate in that decision making, in that common effort and in the satisfaction that we have all contributed to the results.

[Question] Historically the DC has been distant from the people in Costa Rica. What are you doing to make it popular?

[Answer] The DC was always considered the future solution of problems in the Costa Rican political arena, but it did not have popular support because the Costa Rican electorate did not want to lose. As I said before, our major effort at this time is to teach our principles and objectives in order to form a great Social Christian party, no matter what it is named.

[Question] At this time, Unidad is writing its new statutes. Do you believe that they can be written and approved so that they truly correspond to the DC and your doctrine?

[Answer] The statutes have already been written and approved by the National Political Directorate and completely agree with the DC political philosophy. I want to tell you that every party must be open to improvement of its ideas since man, the essence itself of our doctrine, is improvable. We cannot hold on to purisms that ignore the evolution of society as a group of persons. Changes must adapt them to reality within the framework of democracy and peace which we essentially respect and defend.

[Question] The DC has managed to elect deputies in congress through the Unidad coalition. Some believe that that is the basic reason for stating that the DC is not a considerable political force by itself. Don't you think that trying to impose your doctrine on all those groups to create the DC in Costa Rica is an exaggeration?

[Answer] I believe that this will be answered in the future when the Costa Ricans view that Social Christian party that we propose as the fundamental pillar of democracy in Costa Rica.

[Question] You Christian Democrats have a well defined ideology. When you joined Unidad, did you do it with your ideological baggage intact or are you navigating in two currents or holding a double membership that could be interpreted as a weakening of your own principles?

[Answer] It should be stated that we have never weakened in our principles. Throughout its history, the DC has tried to end bossism. It has tried to have national policy channeled through clear definitions of policy and indications of the roads that we believe, as part of our philosophy, the country needs for a more just democracy. We sincerely believe that there are innumerable groups of Costa Ricans within the Unidad coalition who share our concerns, who believe in those solutions in spite of the fact that they are not and never have been Christian Democrats. The DC fights for the consolidation of its principles but it has always been open to theoretical review

and analysis and to the adaptation of solutions to national problems to present circumstances within the philosophical framework. For that reason, without weakening, we will continue fighting within Unidad, not for individuals but for joint effort toward the solution of those problems within the framework of a philosophy that we believe is part of the Costa Rican himself.

[Question] How far are you prepared to carry your alliance within Unidad as a "political option"?

[Answer] To us, the political option is the respect and dignity of man, social justice and the solidarity that the Social Christian philosophy represents. Our commitment and our participation will continue until these principles and others in the Social Christian philosophy motivate the political action of the Unidad coalition.

[Question] Could it be inferred from all you have said that the DC is a simple abstraction of Costa Rican politics?

[Answer] In different countries there are Christian Democrat parties with different names. They apply the Social Christian philosophy, which is universal, to their own realities. We are fighting here to construct a great party that would be a real alternative to the PLN [National Liberation Party] which claims it is a social democratic party. We participate extensively in the action of the Unidad coalition. We work for the spread of its philosophy and the real orientation that we believe Costa Rican politics must have in all spheres of the country. Every week there are four 2-day courses in different parts of the country to spread that philosophy. At the same time, as a political party, we analyze the meaning of different government decisions, party actions and bills in the assembly to improve our position and try to channel all Costa Rican political work toward the solution that we believe is best.

[Question] Then, is the Unidad coalition simply a vehicle that you are using to strengthen yourselves as a party?

[Answer] I would certainly not say that the DC is using Unidad as a vehicle to spread its ideas and strengthen it. The truth is that the forces that oppose the PLN realized that if there was not a political plan to unite all these forces, there would not be a real choice for the Costa Rican which might lead toward antiliberationism. If this was the conclusion that all the opposition groups reached at that time, it was our obligation to contribute from our position as a party firmly aware of the justice of that conclusion. We are trying to make the Unidad party a real expression of national politics, an ideological party based on Social Christian principles.

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CSO: 3010

VOLIO SUPPORTS MONGE FOR PLN CANDIDACY

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 20 Feb 80 p 4

[Interview with Fernando Volio, PLN politician, by Wilmer Murillo:
"Monge Lost in 1978 Because He Did Not Act Like a Leader"]

[Text] When Mr Fernando Volio Jimenez, considered by many an able and clever politician, gave his support to Luis Alberto Monge Alvarez as a candidate for the presidential nomination of the PLN [National Liberation Party], the balance of power in that organization seemed to reach a state of equilibrium. Regardless of which is the strongest, the sides have been chosen and the situation took on another look.

Our subject this week, Mr Fernando Volio, feels that experience will come to the aid of the PLN and the internal fights that conspire against unity in that group will be overcome. He said: "We will go to the elections united and strengthened with a candidate for the times."

[Question] You have always been known as an able and clever politician. Were you aware, before announcing your aspiration to be nominated as a presidential candidate, that you would lose?

[Answer] I was always aware that the task would be difficult but, at the same time, I realized that I would attract people. I thought, as did my central action committee, that my image and our message could gain strength in time. After the rules of the game were changed in midstream, it was all uphill.

[Question] You gave your support to Luis Alberto Monge and decided to "go" with him. He was rejected by the electorate once. What makes you think that he will win the second time?

[Answer] The last campaign was very emotional. There was no room for serious thought about the matters that interested the electorate

most or, at least, should have interested them; for example, solutions to current problems and those of the near future. Now there will be time for the electorate to pay attention to Luis Alberto's message, to his way of life, to his career and his achievements. Also since I saw that campaign from outside--from the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Presidency--I felt that Luis Alberto did not act like the leader that I had known very well for many years. He did not show his eloquence, his natural sympathy, his warmth or his energy to fight for his ideas. Possibly he did not take the initiative as he should have and possibly the organization of his campaign left much to be desired. Now local leaders repeat this last part all over the country. The party was not the efficient organization that was needed. This was due perhaps, among other things, to the fact that a party in government generally lowers its guard and loses its political reflexes, especially after two consecutive administrations. That will change now. Luis Alberto will be the leader of the opposition. The party is rejuvenated and I am sure that it will act much more professionally than it did in all the previous campaigns. As has already occurred in the past, our candidate will have learned his lesson, will correct his personal mistakes and will undoubtedly be a winner like Orlich and Oduber were after their defeats.

[Question] How do you think that the PLN crisis caused by the different factions will be overcome?

[Answer] Again experience will come to our aid and this new fraternal competition will help us go to the elections united and strengthened. We will have almost 2 years to prepare ourselves, to assume our responsibilities again. These are greater than those of any other democratic political party because the PLN is the strongest and most mature party here. It keeps the extremist forces of the right and the left from making Costa Rica a land of hatred and a site of anarchy, thus destroying our exemplary democracy. Of course, I hear people say that if so-and-so wins, I will not vote or I will remain on the sidelines or I will go to another party. There are all kinds in the world but those voices are in the minority. At this time, many of those who left us will return now and many who have never belonged to the PLN will understand what I am saying. If they want Costa Rica to continue as a true democracy, they will come under the wing of the PLN to comply with their patriotic duty.

[Question] Don't you think that the continual postponement of your presidential aspirations has been an unavoidable misfortune for your future aspirations?

[Answer] It is the first time that I have aspired to the presidency of the republic. I felt very flattered to learn that the ideas that

I want to incorporate are shared by many PLN members and even many citizens from other democratic parties related, in my opinion, to Social Democracy. This candidacy for nomination permitted my ideas and achievements for social justice under freedom to come to the forefront; what I am, what I have contributed and still contribute for the improvement of our society.

[Question] In spite of your prestige, you are not considered a true political force. What do you think of yourself as a future candidate of the PLN?

[Answer] I do not agree that I am not a political force; I am. However, I have never said that I constituted a great political force now. Everything matures at its own rate. I have not focused on that alone. Thank God, I have other things that make my life significant. Nevertheless, I do aspire to achieve that honor but I would not feel frustrated if it did not happen. I would be distressed not to be able to participate daily in the collective effort to make Costa Rica a more democratic, greater and more just state. I am distressed to think about the social and economic inequalities that still keep us from feeling satisfied with the society that the many generations of Costa Ricans and foreigners who have shared our aspirations have constructed so arduously. There is still much to be done and it is urgent work that does not give us respite.

[Question] Your elimination and that of former foreign minister Facio put Luis Alberto and Carlos Manuel Castillo in the race for the PLN candidacy. Do you think that the image of defeated candidate that Luis Alberto still has is a reason to be pessimistic about his nomination?

[Answer] On the contrary, Orlich and Oduber were losers once and winners the next time. The same thing will happen with Monge.

[Question] Do you think it is necessary to choose Monge as the candidate only because he alleges that he has served the PLN more than anyone? Do you believe that that is the quality that a man in that political group should have to occupy that position? Or should he be it because of Orlich and Oduber's precedent?

[Answer] His career has extraordinary value. However, Luis Alberto has much more than his career; he has intellectual and moral attributes that fully accredit him to be our candidate and our president. Neither Luis Alberto nor those of us who accompany him believe that he should be the candidate only because of Orlich and Oduber's precedents. No, it is because he is the man for the times.

[Question] In an interview that I had with Monge a little while ago, he mentioned the men who he thought were his major rivals for the

candidacy. He cited Garron Salazar as the most important and Alfonso Carro as the one with the most political strength in the party although not necessarily electoral strength. He did not even mention you. Would you say that he ignored your merits?

[Answer] No, he did not have to list all the PLN members who qualified to be president and to be chosen as presidential candidate. To me, 30 years of working with Luis Alberto are worth much more. He has frequently shown me his appreciation, even when he was a nominee. I will always remember a letter that Luis Alberto sent me a few years ago in which he told me that he considered me one of the 10 best PLN deputies in all its history. I am also happy that he mentioned the merits of two such prominent comrades as Hernan Garron and Alfonso Carro. Anyway, I do not support Luis Alberto because of his flattery but because I must always be consistent with my ideology

[Question] It is stated that Napoleon said that governing means conversing. Others feel that governing means making decisions. Do you believe that this government converses and makes decisions or neither?

[Answer] This government has perverted the practice of dialog or conversation because, as it states in one of Shakespeare's works: "Action follows talk and talk follows action." This is the same as the popular saying: "Work is love and not good arguments." Mr Carazo and his ministers and officials can win speech and political eloquence contests but the distressing situations that overwhelm us will not disappear that way. The people want less empty eloquence and more fruitful action.

[Question] You might say, as former president of Congress, that the time has come to modernize the parliamentary system or that the constant crisis of that institution is the reflection of something bigger like the absence of a political plan appropriate for present circumstances. Do you think that that improvement is needed so that the system will stop functioning in such a lazy and unorganized way?

[Answer] Look, when the political leadership is in a crisis, it seems as if the entire institutional system is inefficient or its weaknesses become magnified. I am not saying that the assembly does not need reforms since every political institution should be brought up-to-date with the needs of a dynamic society. The assembly can function with its present deficiencies and, of course, will function better if it is reformed. With the Oduber plan in 1961, the assembly entered into a phase of continual improvement. I myself, as president of congress (1968-69) and as party whip for 3 years in the 1966-70 term, participated in that continual effort to modernize the assembly. I presented two bills--one for regulatory reforms and the other to amend the Constitution--which were so good that the

respective commissions did not approve them. There have been other more recent ones like Mr Rodrigo Madrigal's which merit great attention. I will soon publish a paper that I did for the department of the well remembered Constantino Lascaris. It is called "The legislative assembly, ideas for its reform." No, what is happening is that the country has lost its poise and its self-confidence due to the fact that the government is confused and does not know how to find a definite road for the country that permits democratic discussion embodied in that indispensable binomial: governors-governed.

[Question] If Monge Alvarez wins, what position do you hope to hold in his government?

[Answer] I discovered my teaching vocation too late 10 years ago. That and my family fill my life. However, I am not retired. In spite of natural problems, circumstances that I believe to be fortunate have placed me in the active sector. Since democracy is supported by the active and conscious participation of all citizens in politics, it is also one of my interests. I am not the one to say what public office I should hold in the future.

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CSO: 3010

DISCUSSION ON CONTINUING AGRICULTURE PROBLEMS

Minister Calls for Subsidies

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 13 Feb 80 p 4A

[Text] The minister of agriculture and livestock, Dr Hernan Fonseca Zamora, is fighting for a subsidy for agriculture as the only way to keep prices low for the basic grains and other products, just as advanced countries such as the United States do.

Referring to the shortage of items such as oil, salt and beans, he commented that these products used to be imported from Nicaragua in the past, and that the shortfall that exists now is a logical result of the problems that country has been suffering. Production is no longer sufficient, and besides, the government has prohibited the exportation of these products in order to reserve them for domestic consumption.

With regard to milk, the minister indicated that this area deserves special attention. "I believe," he stated, "that we are capable of producing enough for domestic consumption in the categories of milk, meat, eggs and even beans, as I have stated many times."

When interviewed by LA NACION concerning the crisis resulting from the shortage of several basic goods, the official maintained that it is necessary, first of all, to have up-to-date statistics on the costs of production. "We should not be inventing numbers or speculating about them," he stressed. "The producers claim one cost while the government points to another. We must establish an office that will put out very specialized information that will carry the daily costs of production. When the costs of producing eggs, milk or any other product are determined precisely to be dropping to or approaching the sales price charged by producers to merchants, wholesalers or whomever, then the corresponding measures must be taken immediately to readjust that price."

Predictions

The official advocates that the necessary predictions be made, logically adjusted to realistic figures so that when the time comes to readjust prices, there will be complete information available to the citizens: well-founded, documented information that clearly explains the reasons.

The above, he indicated, is intended to ensure that the citizens will accept that as the cost of production for radios, tape recorders, televisions, automobiles, shirts, liquor, cigarettes and other items goes up, so does the cost of producing basic grains, milk and meat. This is because of rising costs of inputs, labor and land.

"I believe," he stressed, "that this historic struggle of the masses, like the struggle of governments, has always revolved around increasing prices for food products.

"This has been traditional, and has made basic food items an instrument of politics, both in terms of attacks by the government because of price readjustments, and as a defense if prices are kept low. This struggle cannot continue without some explanation of the logical reason why prices must rise."

Subsidy

With reference to the subsidy for basic grains, the minister stated that it is necessary in the case of basic products--only in the case of commonly used articles that are intensively utilized by the truly needy classes--to subsidize farmers so that they can sell their products at low prices for the benefit of these classes. He commented that in advanced countries such as the United States, Germany, England and France, agriculture is often subsidized, "because," he emphasized, "no one would ever suggest that it is cheap to produce a good that is subject to so many ups and downs and so much inconsistency, as are agricultural goods, vulnerable as they are to climatic conditions, environment, pests and diseases."

Then he went further into this subject: "No matter how many figures a farmer juggles in projecting crops, he never comes out in the black. It's not like in industry, where there is a production schedule and the number of goods produced comes out exactly as planned, produced at the cost projected."

He said that in agriculture these figures don't work, so it is all the more crucial for the government to maintain complete statistics in this field in order to set prices for the goods produced or establish subsidies when necessary.

"In the case of difficult crops such as beans," he explained, "when there is a bad harvest or a bad year, there should be an immediate subsidy from a government institution. The support price should be raised immediately.

If production figures drop from 20 to 10 sacks a hectare, the farmer should receive aid to make up for the losses, so that he will not be discouraged from planting the following year."

Farmer by Vocation

Another viewpoint expressed by Dr Fonseca was that in Costa Rica not all people are true farmers who regard agriculture as a calling. He claimed that this has done great damage to the true agricultural sector. The abuses committed against banks and crop insurance have caused these institutions to become very hard-nosed in many cases, and they do not even trust those who receive credit from them. As a result, he indicated, the government's policy should be geared toward helping farmers openly, but only the good ones. It should not help those well-known farmers who plant their crops and then leave their foremen and peons to care for the crops and try to get good harvests. Thus, he concluded, a distinction should be made between the good farmer and the bad one, or the person who is not a farmer at all.

Need for Diversification

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] Costa Rica is debating the urgent need for streamlined agricultural credit, diversification of credit systems and permanent supervision of the granting of such credit, said President Rodrigo Carazo in his speech yesterday marking the opening of the Seminar on Development Banking and Agricultural Credit.

This seminar, which will last until next Friday, has been organized by financial institutions of our country and the Latin American Association of Financial Institutions for Development (ALIDE), in conjunction with the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences (IICA).

The main objective of the seminar is to examine the function of credit in agricultural production, and to study sources and alternatives for financing in the eighties.

The group will also study different operating policies of development banking in the financing of the agricultural sector.

In another part of his speech, President Carazo pointed out that we should think about the fact that rural emigration is decreasing agricultural production steadily, leading to a shortage of manpower.

He also indicated that Costa Rica should be concerned about the degree of agricultural development of neighboring countries, which are now supplying it with agricultural products, in order to accelerate our productive process.

President Carazo remarked that Latin American countries are suffering from higher prices for inputs, a sharp drop in the number of markets, and a high degree of speculation on our imports.

"We no longer know," claimed the president, "if these products are really worth what the daily price quotation says, or if that price is the result of speculation."

Carazo categorically affirmed that it is necessary to think seriously about setting up food reserves for the continent as a key factor in sustaining our human development.

Finally, he expressed his optimism about the challenges of finding adequate financing for the agricultural sector, and stressed that in a multipolar world we must find our own pole of agricultural and livestock development as a guarantee of our subsistence.

Former President Jose Figueres Ferrer, who also participated in the seminar, strongly criticized development banking's history and its role in granting agricultural credit.

The former leader stated that there is total ignorance of the factors of production, and "if there is not a total change, in a short time there will be hunger in the world."

He added that the problem lies in the fact that for years it has been believed that banks are doing farmers a favor by granting them loans, when the truth is quite the opposite.

He commented that certainly no one can doubt that it is the farmer who is doing the banks a favor, because he is putting the land into production.

Central American Comparisons

San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 24 Feb 80 p 8A

[Article by Lidiette Brenes de Charpentier]

[Text] Corn, beans and sorghum have a higher price in Costa Rica than in any other Central American country, while rice is cheaper here than in the rest of the region.

This is the conclusion of several studies undertaken by the Permanent Secretariat of Central American Integration (SIECA) on the behavior of wholesale prices in the different capitals of the area.

These analyses were turned over to the vice-ministers of economics during last Thursday's meeting in San Jose.

It was also noted that during the agricultural season of 1979-1980 Costa Rica suffered a shortfall in the bean and corn harvests; however, a surplus is expected in the rice and sorghum harvests.

SIECA recommended that there be a study of the possibility of creating regional grain reserves, taking into consideration the climatic conditions

that have prevailed in recent years. It also recommended that data be maintained constantly on the state of production.

Corn

In 1979, the average annual price in Central America was \$8.01 per quintal. In Costa Rica this price was \$10.51 per quintal, which compares unfavorably with the figure for Nicaragua, despite the shortage resulting from the war: corn was only \$6.77 per quintal in that country.

The total amount available was 68,000 metric tons, which was total production. The estimate of consumption was 75,000 metric tons, which resulted in a shortfall of 7,000 tons.

Curiously, although there was a deficit of 55,200 metric tons in Nicaragua, much higher than in Costa Rica, the wholesale price was \$3.74 less per quintal.

The surpluses coming from the harvests in El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua in the 1978-1979 season helped make up for the deficit in other countries.

Beans

Despite the definite preference in all the Central American countries for a certain type of bean--red or black--the two types substituted for each other.

However, throughout the area red beans brought in a higher price.

Furthermore, differences in prices continue to be significant, especially in the countries of Honduras and Costa Rica (the lowest and highest of the region, respectively).

In our country, black beans went for \$26.80 and red for \$26.80 per quintal; in Honduras the former brought \$12.53 and the latter \$17.96.

Our bean harvest amounted to 18,500 metric tons, while consumption was estimated at 30,500 metric tons. The deficit was 12,000 metric tons.

In general terms, according to the study, Central American production was severely affected by excess precipitation, which stimulated the development of pests and diseases and caused the destruction of part of the crops as a result of flooding.

It was noted that the price stabilizing agencies of the area have made sacrifices, subsidizing prices to the consumer by selling the product below its cost. This has had an unfavorable effect on the working capital of these institutions.

Rice

The price of rice in Costa Rica was the lowest of the region, stabilizing at \$18.83 per quintal. The average for Central America was \$33.15.

Rice is the most expensive in Honduras, where \$30.96 per quintal is the going rate, and in Guatemala, where it costs \$24.28.

In this country, there will be a 99,800-metric ton surplus because there was a total of 210,000 tons available and a consumption of 110,200 tons.

According to official sources, Costa Rica and El Salvador (which also has a surplus) already sold the amounts set aside for export to third countries, although they both will maintain contingency reserves in case of eventual shortfalls in their own countries or in the area.

Sorghum (Millet)

The price per quintal of this product in Costa Rica was \$8.56, higher than the Central American average of \$7.43. The lowest price for this product was found in El Salvador, where sorghum went for \$6.53 per quintal.

After years of dependence on countries outside the region, Central America has become self-sufficient thanks to a greater productive effort.

Costa Rica, for its part, despite traditional shortages of sorghum, this season increased its production by 55.3 percent and produced a total of 68,000 tons. This allowed it to achieve self-sufficiency in its sorghum supply. The increase was due to better zoning of crops by replacing rice and stimulating the production of sorghum in areas with relatively little precipitation.

Reserves

SIECA stated that the area will be self-sufficient in corn, rice and sorghum, and will even have surpluses it can export to third countries in terms of rice.

In the case of beans, the main shortage came about in September, October and November 1979 in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras as a result of heavy rains that damaged the winter crop.

These countries hope that the second, or last, harvest will be enough to cover demand between February and August 1980.

All this indicates that the region is extremely vulnerable to changing climatic conditions, as have occurred in recent years, either because of too much or too little rain.

For this reason it is a good idea to study the possibility of setting up regional grain reserves and adopting systems to maintain constant data on the situation of production, as well as speeding up the trading of grain among the price stabilizing agencies.

PRECIOS MEDIOS AL POR MAYOR (1) **(\$/QUINTAL) 1979**

PAIS (2)	MAIZ (1)	FRIJOL (4)		ARROZ (7)	SORGO (8)
		Rojo (5)	Negro (6)		
Centroamérica (9)	8.01	21.70	19.60	23.15	7.43
Guatemala	8.02	22.35	20.71	24.28	7.29
El Salvador	7.23	20.63	18.38	21.15	6.53
Honduras	7.52	17.96	12.53	30.96	7.33
Nicaragua	6.77	20.77		20.55	
Costa Rica	10.51	26.80	26.80	18.83	8.56

Key:

1. Average Wholesale Prices (\$/Quintal) 1979
2. Country
3. Corn
4. Beans
5. Red
6. Black
7. Rice
8. Sorghum
9. Central America

The chart, prepared by SIECA, shows the behavior of four basic grains in Central America during the 1979-1980 season.

8926

CSO: 3010

FISHING INDUSTRY PLANS, PROBLEMS EXAMINED

National Fishing Policy

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 19 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] Steps were recently taken to draw up a "national fishing policy." Participating in this effort were members of the Puntarenas Chamber of Fishermen, small private fishermen and officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Cattle [MAG].

Dr Hernan Fonseca, minister of MAG, stated that the government's fishing policy is very ambitious, since one of its principal aspects is to achieve maximum exploitation of those resources, see that its territorial patrimony is respected and establish a national tuna fleet.

One of the important points of this policy, and which is already being successfully carried out, is for the National Production Council (CNP) to purchase the catch from the fishermen and distribute it through its retail outlets. Fonseca said that this will mean an increase in the consumption of that commodity and lower prices for the consumer.

He went on to say that it is hoped to obtain substantial credits for that sector to enable the fishermen to improve their equipment and thus satisfy the national requirements for that commodity as well as export processed fish, such as tuna.

Fonseca indicated that the national shrimp fleet has had many ups and downs due to the poor condition of the vessels currently being used and that the number of such vessels in active service varies considerably inasmuch as many are in need of constant repairs.

He said that small private fishermen catch small quantities and are taken advantage of by middlemen who pay them low prices for the commodity.

The National Fishing Plant will support small private fishermen; in this regard, 3 boats have already been imported, and is expected that another 63 will shortly arrive, which will be handed over to the small fishermen associated with the Fishermen's Cooperative (COOPEPES).

With regard to foreign fleets which are devoting their efforts to tuna fishing in our territorial waters, Fonseca said that the government will oblige them to purchase appropriate licences and will promote the establishment of a national fleet and the installation of tuna-processing plants.

He expressed the opinion that we need more effective control over those vessels, which are realizing very high profits inasmuch as 1 ton of tuna is priced at \$1,800 and a single vessel can catch as much as 1,000 tons in one season. For that reason, he asserted that our country should promote the export of that commodity.

Results of Excessive Fishing

San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 25 Feb 80 p 3

[Text] "The fishing capacity in the Gulf of Nicoya has exceeded the established limits of overexploitation and contamination, thus grievously reducing the possibility of making an adequate catch," was the statement made by Raul Canessa Murillo, president of the Puntarenas Chamber of Commerce, speaking before the special congressional committee which is investigating the problems of the fishing industry.

He asserted that, in terms of one fishing unit and 1 day's normal catch, the gulf is much smaller than it was 10 years ago and that the fishing capacity has been reduced due to a lack of forcefulness in implementing the laws, the closed-season ban and the like.

He said that contamination is another serious factor. Industries installed in the so-called "fire belt" of La Uruca, Escazu and the suburbs of San Jose discard their waste material into small rivers which in turn flow into the Grande de Tarcoles and other large rivers, and these empty into the Gulf of Nicoya.

Contamination is a constant factor and has enormously influenced the disappearance of certain species from a gulf which, until 1951, was considered the richest source of fish throughout America's Pacific Coast. "That evaluation was made for the period in question by the Scrip organization," Raul Canessa said.

He pointed out, moreover, that the mangrove swamps, breeding places which serve as a habitat and are a part of the important ecological conditions for the development of certain species and the distribution of nutrients, are contaminated and that many marine species have therefore disappeared.

In view of the preceding, he advised that in the future that factor will have to be taken into consideration in the construction of vessels. Ships will have to be capable of withdrawing to the high seas and abandon coastal fishing. "More small boats, like those already existing, will only aggravate the problem of overexploitation of the gulf and the already difficult economic plight of the fishermen," he concluded.

STATE COUNCIL DECREE ON WORKER DISCIPLINE ISSUED

Text of Decree-Law

Havana VERDE OLIVO in Spanish 2 Mar 80 pp 12-13

[Text] The Council of State has passed the following Decree-Law:

Whereas: Existing legal provisions governing work discipline, the adoption of disciplinary measures in cases of violations of work discipline and the organization and operation of labor councils, and the corresponding proceedings, do not enable government agencies to impose and directly apply the disciplinary measures which the law authorizes. Rather, such agencies are forced to appeal to labor councils, requesting the imposition of such measures and, if necessary, resorting to petitions to the proper municipal people's courts, which in practice prevents the corrective action which should be exercised by government agencies in fulfilling their duty to ensure work discipline and the exercise of the right which should be theirs.

Whereas: Furthermore, the imposition of a disciplinary measure must await completion of the entire labor judicial process, which has special significance in cases where the importance and seriousness of the facts and other circumstances mean that the continued presence of the workers in question at the enterprise, establishment or work center involved is a disturbing element, unless the administration adopts, as a provisional measure, the removal of the worker, a decision lacking in effectiveness because the agency must immediately report such a decision to the labor council, which must decide whether or not to endorse the provisional measure. This means that the government agency actually lacks suitable means for dealing with the problem.

Whereas: For the reasons given, the legislation is a real obstacle to effective action by the enterprise in cases of violations of work discipline and can consequently be used as an excuse for inertia or lack of action on the part of government agencies in performing their duty.

Whereas: In cases in which violations of work discipline may constitute a criminal act, existing legal provisions make continuation of the labor trial and the imposition of corresponding disciplinary measures dependent on the final opinions or decisions of the people's criminal courts, thereby weakening any action of government agencies and subordinating the labor trial to the criminal trial, ignoring the fact that incidents which constitute violations of work discipline, which might in turn be construed as criminal acts, should be evaluated and reviewed in terms of labor legislation, independently of whether or not they bring together all the objective and subjective elements constituting a criminal act and whether or not, rightly or wrongly, a people's criminal court evaluates the concurrence of those elements, thereby guaranteeing the independence of the labor trial, which has its own goals and objectives, independently of those contained in existing criminal law.

Whereas: With respect to work discipline and corresponding disciplinary measures, there is an urgent need to modify the existing legal status, even as an anticipatory move, so that substance will be given to the objective proclaimed by the revolutionary leadership of the country and solidly backed by the working class and all the people, consisting of taking wide-ranging action in all areas so as to strengthen work discipline as the fundamental principle of the socialist society.

Whereas: The Council of State, in accordance with powers conferred upon it by Articles 87 and 88, Paragraph c, of the constitution, and inasmuch as the National People's Government Assembly is not in session, has approved the following:

Decree-Law Number 32

Article 1. Government agencies are hereby empowered to impose and apply proper disciplinary measures, including those authorized by the law in cases of violations of work discipline, for which purpose they must bear in mind the importance and seriousness of the violation committed, the consequences of that violation, attending circumstances, the worker's record and his current conduct.

Article 2. Likewise, government agencies may impose the disciplinary measures authorized by the bylaws of the organizations, enterprises and budgeted units or establishments and the sectorial or specific regulations on responsibility with respect to work discipline, as well as those specially provided with respect to certain categories of workers.

The Council of Ministers will establish the proper procedure for the passage of regulations mentioned in the preceding paragraph, if not in existence.

Article 3. Disciplinary measures will be imposed within 30 days following the notification of government agencies of violations of work discipline.

If the worker is on assignment abroad and commits the infraction of work discipline while outside the national territory, the disciplinary measure

can be imposed within 30 working days following his return to the national territory.

When the action involves a worker on a Cuban ship or aircraft who commits a violation of work discipline when outside the national territory, the disciplinary measure may be imposed within 30 working days following his return to the national territory.

Action taken by state agencies in imposing a penalty or disciplinary measure on a worker is to be effective for 1 year from the date on which the violation occurred.

Article 4. State agencies will impose the proper disciplinary measures and will notify the worker in question in writing, stating the reasons justifying such measures.

A copy of the notification mentioned in the preceding paragraph will be forwarded to the proper level of the trade union organization.

Article 5. A worker who has been the object of a disciplinary measure as the result of a violation of work discipline may appeal that measure to the proper people's municipal court within a period of 10 days from the date he was notified of the disciplinary measure imposed.

The appeal or petition to the people's municipal court will be presented in writing with one copy. There are no other requirements, but the appeal must state the following: 1) the full name, occupation and residence of the petitioner; 2) identification or name of the state organization, budgeted unit, enterprise, establishment or work center and its address; 3) the union to which the petitioner belongs; and 4) a brief account of the facts and arguments on which the appeal or petition is based.

The appeal or petition must be accompanied by the letter notifying the worker of the imposition of the disciplinary measure.

Article 6. Throughout the entire course of the trial and until a ruling is handed down, the worker must abide by the disciplinary measure imposed by the state agency until the close of the judicial process.

Initiation of the penal process does not prevent executive of the disciplinary measure imposed, nor will it affect or halt the labor trial if there has been a judicial appeal of the disciplinary measure imposed.

The ruling in the labor trial will be handed down independently of the result of the criminal trial.

Temporary Provision

Labor Councils which, when this decree-law goes into effect, are handling labor disputes relating to violations of work discipline will halt all

action on such cases and, within 30 days of the date on which this decree-law goes into effect, will turn over to the state agency which advanced the corresponding appeal or petition the dossier begun for the purpose.

The state agency may impose and directly apply the disciplinary measure requested from the Labor Council within 30 days of having received from the Council the dossier in question, in accordance with the provisions of this decree-law and based on which the proceedings will be adjusted.

Final Provisions

1 -- Clause 1 of Article 702 of Law No 7 of 10 August 1977 is hereby modified and will read as follows:

1) workers' claims relating to the application of disciplinary measures.

2 -- Articles 715, 716 and 717 of Law No 7 of 19 August 1977 are hereby abolished.

3 -- Article 11 of Law No 8 of 22 August 1977, "Law Concerning the Organization and Operation of Labor Councils," is hereby modified and will read as follows:

Article 11. Labor Councils hear disputes that arise between workers or between workers and state agencies, relating to the recognition, granting or claiming of rights and compliance with obligations emanating from labor legislation, as well as petitions and claims concerning short-term social security.

4 -- Articles 2 and 17, Section 3 of Chapter 4 and the first final provision of Law No 8 of 22 August 1977 are hereby abolished.

5 -- Clause 3 of Article 1, Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 15, 16 and 17, and the first and second final provisions of Decree-Law No 11 of 14 December 1977 are hereby abolished.

6 -- The Council of Ministers is hereby empowered to provide for the form and amount of compensation for economic damage and injury to be paid to the worker by the state agency in cases involving the imposition of disciplinary measures which the court declares to be improper. It will also dictate any further regulations or additions to the provisions of this decree-law when it deems necessary.

7 -- Any and all legal provisions and regulations contrary to the provisions of this decree-law are hereby declared null and void. This decree-law will go into effect upon publication in the GACETA OFICIAL DE LA REPUBLICA.

Palacio de la Revolucion
City of Havana
16 February 1980

Analysis Weighs Measure

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 23 Feb 80 p 3-B

[Text] Havana, 22 Feb (EFE)--A decree-law by virtue of which there will be greater speed and strictness in the application of penalties contained in Cuban law for violations of work discipline has been announced here.

Actually, the "hardening" -- if the term can be used -- does not so much stem from new disciplinary standards as it does from the application of those already in existence, which will now be enforced by government agencies or heads of enterprises, businesses and other organizations.

The decree-law establishes a variation with regard to the existing rule, which required that disciplinary measures meted out by officials be reviewed by the labor councils or every enterprise or organization.

Such a procedure implied a substantial delay in the application of disciplinary measures, especially since the decisions of the "enterprise committees" were not so much legalistic as they were human and personal, meaning that there was an increasing breakdown of labor discipline in the country.

The new law, which criticizes the current system of imposing penalties in its preamble and the delay that is caused in some cases by judicial appeals, enterprise directors will now be the "masters" of the strict application of disciplinary norms and the results will be judged later.

The decree establishes that the labor councils will have no role to play with regard to disciplinary measures imposed by the officials of each work center, enterprise or organization.

The need for these penalties to be imposed within a period of 30 days from the time the state officials is notified of the violation also implies a need for diligence in the handling of appeals, which will be taken to the people's municipal courts, although the penalty continues in force until the decision of the court.

According to the new decree-law, initiation of a criminal trial, if there is to be one, will not prevent the execution of the disciplinary measure imposed.

In a country in which productivity has dropped sharply in the past 3 years -- although the figures have not been made public -- where some factories have been closed due to a lack of raw materials and where work absenteeism is high, this new regulation is a harsh blow to workers, whose average wage is estimated to be about 115 pesos (\$146).

The nearly 5 million workers on the island of Cuba will now have to face the absolute power thus given to state administrators, many of whom receive wages lower than those paid to their workers!

ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

New Policy Explained

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Article by Aldo Madruga]

[Text] For over 2 hours, FAR [Revolutionary Armed Forces] officers, soldiers, preuniversity students, families of the young people and journalists talked about the entry into active military service of high school and midlevel technical school graduates.

A meeting was held that evening in the editor's office of our newspaper which, because of the infrequency of such meetings, could be described as special. Assembled around the same table were FAR officers of various ranks and specialities, soldiers, too, from the different branches, young men who in the future could be called into the FAR, the parents of some of the young men present and journalists.

On the agenda of the meeting, there was only one major and multifaceted topic which was to be discussed from various angles: the new recruitment policy for active military service for youths who have graduated from high school and midlevel technical schools.

When, how and why can a preuniversity, technical or any other high school graduate be called up to fulfill his military service obligation? How long must he stay in military service? Under what conditions will his period of service be reduced? Will he be able to enroll in a higher-education specialty afterward? What do parents, young recruits and their commanding officers think about this subject? What is the option of those who will put on the olive green uniform tomorrow?

For several hours, there was discussion of the topic. No one remained silent. Everyone expressed his opinions and his doubts with frankness and absolute freedom and, although there was really no need for a summary, a number of obvious truths came out of the meeting.

In the first place, it became clear that this policy benefits everyone: the young man, because, in a short time, he has the opportunity to receive all the combat training needed to make him a soldier capable of defending the country and its revolution, effectively and with confidence in himself, and to earn him the right to continue higher studies;

Unit officers, because they are getting qualified people who are easy to train in the handling of technical materiel, who assimilate political instruction very quickly and who, at the same time, are soldiers that more readily grasp discipline and, therefore, have conscientious respect for it;

The FAR as a whole, because without a doubt these young men raise the FAR's potential, and that of the entire nation, as the latter can feel itself more solidly defended, since a brave soldier who has not mastered fully the technology entrusted to him is not the equal of another soldier who is also brave but knows how to use such equipment with maximum effectiveness.

There was talk of the manner in which some parents and relatives encourage a disliking for military service, which in many cases contributes to the making of mediocre, cowardly men who are unable to face up to problems and do not have the will to resolve such problems on their own.

Of course, although active military service was not idealized as something perfect, it was given high marks as a great school, susceptible of improvement, in which a man becomes more of a man, a better citizen and a more integral revolutionary.

Officer Supplies Details

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] It was Maj Rolando Campis, of the directorate of organization and mobilization of the FAR General Staff, who gave a detailed explanation of the policy being followed with respect to the entry into active military service of middle-level school graduates:

Campis explained that from 1959 to 1963 the Revolutionary Armed Forces (FAR) were fed by personnel from the Rebel Army and others from the National Revolutionary Militias who voluntarily entered active military service. This continued until October 1963 when Law 1129 (Mandatory Military Service) was issued with a view to preparing the entire population for the defense of the country.

"In accordance with that law, citizens called into the FAR served for 3 years and then, already trained, became members of the reserves which we now have. Ten years later, that is in 1973, with a greater store of experience, the current General Military Service law was drawn up.

"This new law, the purpose of which also was preparation of all the people for defense, includes Active Military Service and the Reserves. It establishes

age criteria, the kind of training which each of the various categories of reserves is to receive, as well as the periods of active military service and the kinds of deferments, based on the country's most important interests.

"One of the law's articles stipulates that the minister of the FAR has the authority to lower the period of active military service to 1 year when circumstances in the military service permit.

"Young preuniversity and midlevel technical school graduates, because of the military training they receive in their schools and the rank-and-file organizations of the society for Patriotic-Military Service (SEPMI), more quickly become soldiers with a good understanding of weaponry and military life.

"In the SEPMI, an increasingly greater number of young men are participating in sports and learning military techniques. In all the provinces, there are now prerecruitment courses which train young men in various specialties who later enter the FAR. They are trained as radiotelegraphers, drivers, medical corpsmen, caterpillar tractor operators, mechanics, etc. When they get to their units, they adapt with greater facility to military life.

"All of these are some of the steps being taken so that in the future, when most of our young people have the training needed, we will be able to reduce active military service to 2 years; however, in the meantime and on a temporary basis, what is being applied is a new policy of recruitment of graduates of preuniversity and technical schools at the intermediate level.

"According to this policy, a young graduate from an intermediate level institution (preuniversity, technical and FOC [Workers and Peasants Faculty] school enters the FAR and, depending on his combat training and political instruction and discipline, his 3-year period of active military service in the FAR can be reduced to as little as 1 year and he is assured of enrollment in higher education upon release from the FAR.

"Enrollment is guaranteed by means of an agreement existing between the FAR and the Ministry of Higher Education, which is approved by the state at its highest level. In 1979, hundreds of young men were released from service and a great number of them entered higher-education centers."

Educational Benefit Process

Havana JUVENTUDE REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] What procedures are followed to grant a soldier a reduction in his period of active military service and enrollment in higher education?

This point was made quite clear during the JUVENTUD REBELDE meeting. These are the procedures to be followed: At the biannual platoon meeting, the platoon leader, on the basis of records he has kept, and after consulting with the political organizations, reads an evaluation of each soldier, in which are assembled the soldier's grades in combat training and political instruction, as well as the discipline observed during the period.

That is, the platoon leader recommends that soldiers who were outstanding during the rating period be considered for the benefits of Order 20, 1979, of the FAR. All candidates will be judged by members of the platoon.

In the second year, the same analysis is made to determine whether the young soldier has attained the required marks. If he has received good marks--this requires collective approval--the superior command is notified that the comrade has been approved. A form is then filled out in which the soldier's study preference is specified.

Officers Comment on System

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Article by Pfc Carlos Rodriguez]

[Text] "When new soldiers are assigned to a unit, the first thing we do is determine the level of education of these young men, because a preuniversity man is not the same as another with a sixth-grade education. It is easier to work with the former, particularly if he comes from a technical school with a specialty related to the job he is doing in the unit; whereas, with the latter, we have to work hard so that he will assimilate the technology. At times, he is unable to get an indepth mastery of it.

"Last year, several soldiers were released from service who were under my command and who were high school graduates. I had no problems of any kind with them. It was only necessary to explain something to them once because they learned quickly. In the same political instruction classes, for instance, with the time assigned for it, these soldiers not only had enough time to get the intended meaning but in addition helped those who were slower in learning.

"I do not mean to say that soldiers of lesser cultural levels are not very good in many cases. Some of them I have had who came from the countryside did everything they were supposed to and were disciplined; however, we spent the 3 years of their active military service explaining technology to them. They learned how to use it but in a mechanical way at times, without the broad mastery which can be observed in the preuniversity or technical school graduate.

"For example, a man with little education has to be taught to install three switches: first one, then the next and the next. He spends all his time doing this; however, do not ask him why he is installing the switches because he does not know what to answer. His knowledge does not permit him to analyze problems that have to do with electricity. The same is not true with a technical school graduate who faced with a given situation can resolve any question arising out of routine on his own initiative." (1st Lt Manuel Diaz Casines)

"The cultural level of the FAR has been rising. We officers are feeling this within the framework of our own duties. As better-trained men enter military service, work begins to stabilize: combat training, discipline, political instruction... I am referring to the work being done in a regiment... There is a big difference between a soldier who may be very good, well-disciplined, very revolutionary but who only has a sixth-grade education. We have to explain things to him many times before he understands them.

"We have preuniversity and technical school graduates in every small unit. They are still few in number; however, they perform their duties best.

"My experience has been that in places where we have men with high educational levels, the work stabilizes; however, in places where we have been unable to place trained young men, everything is made more difficult, to the degree that we have to give greater attention on behalf of the party, UJC [Union of Young Communists] and our superior officers.

"For example, there are materials in combat training above the basic secondary level. We do not have to teach preuniversity soldiers physics but merely to refresh their memories, while we have to give those with low educational levels much more time because they have no mastery of physics or at best know only a little about it...

"Discipline, which has improved a great deal, becomes very much better because a man understands orders more easily when he has superior knowledge and does not break the rules, because, independent of the fact that a man does not wish to do so intentionally, failure to obey an order or carrying it out badly hurts the job, hurts the unit." (Lt Luis Maristany)

Soldiers Offer Views

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[TEXT] "I was a graduate technician; and when I went to the ISPJAE [Jose Antonio Echeverria Higher Polytechnic Institute] to begin the course for workers, I was not permitted to enroll. I wanted to become a port mechanization engineer, and, as they say, I saw my hopes dashed to earth.

"Then I was called into active military service. There, in addition to already having been considered for a reduction to 1 year in the FAR, I have the opportunity of enrolling in a higher education specialty. For me, that was like a shot in the arm; and here I am making an effort to do the best I can...

"Of course, when a new man enters the service, he often 'goofs off' because he does not have the army's habits of discipline which are different from those in civilian life; they are much more demanding and severe...in short, there is much more discipline.

"In general, outside the military there is an erroneous idea of what active military service is all about. It is considered to be like a punishment;

but when one is in the service, he realizes that such is not the case, that a soldier will not have any kind of problem if he only is disciplined and takes advantage of the military training and political instruction.

"We soldiers with a higher educational level feel more at ease with the technical military materiel we operate." (Aristides Perez, recruit)

"The new policy is very good for us high school graduates who were unsuccessful in enrolling in higher education...we have the possibility of enrolling in one of those centers and at the same time contribute to the improvement of the unit's discipline, as the soldier knows that if he performs his duties and responsibilities fully he will be benefited...and logically this contributes to his behaving himself, distinguishing himself in the various tasks assigned to him.

"For example, and it is good to clear this up for those who now are studying in preuniversity and technical schools, in our units we had the case of a young man who could have benefited from that ministry order; however, because of his poor behavior, instead of getting out of service in 2 years, he had to stay in for 3 years. In addition to what this means from the morale standpoint, he has lost the opportunity of enrolling in higher education when he is released from service.

"Of course, as our comrade, Major Campins, explained it, there are young men who may have problems in their first year; however, if they do their jobs and achieve good results in combat training during the second and third years, they are assured of enrollment, depending upon the judgment of the collective surrounding them...however, in any event, it is best to do a good job from the very beginning.

"I was not considering going to the university; however, I now have the opportunity, and that makes me happy." (Ibrahim Reyes, private first class)

"When I was called into active military service, I thought that they had just 'finished me off', since I had not been able previously to get an appointment [plaza] to the ISPJAE. I thought that I would no longer be able to become an engineer and that I would have to work during the day and study at night... however, I put aside the idea of becoming an engineer...well, now I feel that I will be one, since Order 20 of the FAR ministry assures me of it, if I do a good job; and I will complete my service in 2 years.

"In my unit, I see what a difficult time my comrades with little education have in assimilating combat training and political instruction and obtaining better grades in them...It is easier for those of us who have greater knowledge, not because we are more intelligent than the next fellow. No. It is because we have more education. In any event, one has to make an effort to keep on getting good results and a proper assimilation of the technology.

"...Discipline is motivated by the policy being applied to high school graduates, since this is a primary aspect.

"I sincerely feel that the higher the cultural level of the soldier, the better it is for all. The FAR has to invest less time in the training of a man basically capable of using the weapon in his possession; the young man benefits because he can fulfill his service requirement up to a year earlier and the country and the revolution are helped for very clear reasons." (Carlos Rodríguez, private first class)

Parent Input Provided

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] "I feel the best education parents can give their children, in addition to advice, is that of example. That has been my point of departure for the education of my children...they are not perfect...however, they have received every attention from their parents so that they will be useful to society.

"Of course, I understand the young man who is hurt by active military service since I, for example, out of lack of understanding, ignorance or what have you, was annoyed some years ago when I was called up by the military...it seemed a punishment to me...however, I went because deep down I felt that duty had a lot to do with it...and I did my job.

"I was called upon for an international mission, and then I better understood how important such call-ups were because I was in a sister country and had to fight...however, I knew how to fight because here in Cuba I was taught and was well prepared. That gave me confidence nothing bad would happen to me and made me think of victory, as I knew what I was doing.

"There I was a man with a rather low cultural level. As for my sons, who do have a higher cultural level, they have the obligation of being better soldiers than their father.

"Really, Order 20 of the minister of the FAR is very good, both for the young man, society and us parents who want the very best for our sons and also for the country.

"I know that Servando is not going to make me feel ashamed. I am sure of that." (Servando Lobaina, father of the student of the same name)

"Sons are always missed; however, that is a bad time that passes. This sacrifice of having them taken away from us is eased by the knowledge that they are doing something useful for the country and for themselves...Every year conditions in the military units are better, and opportunities for young men are increasing. This recruitment policy will not destroy the hopes the boys have of reaching the highest level of education...on the contrary, they are being offered a new opportunity which they should value greatly." (Cruz Fonseca, mother of Servando Lobaina)

"After all, active military service has made my son more of a man. I feel that all young men should serve their country, defend it... This is my only

son, but I have never tried to turn him from his commitments to his country... I give my son to my country...Unquestionably, during active military service they learn other habits; they become more mature, more sociable, bigger, I say. In general, I feel that the recruitment policy being implemented among pre-university and technical school graduates is very just...it offers the young man the opportunity to meet his military obligation and at the same time continue studying afterward, if he is capable of winning such a privilege." (Nimar Herrera Perez, mother of Private Aristides Perez)

"I do not fear for the future of my son in military service. If he is called up for the FAR, that will not interfere with his later studies. On the contrary, it will assure him of the opportunity of enrolling in higher studies. In any event, defense of the nation is above even studies, although the one thing does not interfere with the other, according to this recruitment policy which is being carried out. The FAR is benefiting and so are the young men. I am in full agreement." (Mercedes Rodriguez, mother of preuniversity student Elier Amat)

"My sons are not necessarily models; however, I brought them up rather well. They are not afraid of military service, and I feel honored by what is happening. And they are doing their duty like the men they are. I have struggled very hard for them, and they know that they cannot bring shame on me. I feel that military service was always something natural, and that is the way one should look at it. Parents should be more concerned that their sons are not trained militarily than that they are temporarily separated, as military service implies. The FAR will help to make them better able to live in a society of workers." (Herminia Fiallo, mother of Lazaro Perez)

Student Views on Policy

Havana JUVENTUD REBELDE in Spanish 10 Feb 80 p 6

[Text] "Really the idea I had of active military service was that it would be like a penitentiary where they took the meanest kids and those who did not like to study. When I was called up, that is what I thought. Now, no. Now I see that it is a place to go to learn the handling of weapons and to safeguard all the good things the revolution brought us.

"Judging by what I heard said to the comrades who took part in this roundtable or discussion, I am convinced that from this kind of recruitment being implemented, we young men will gain a lot, as we will learn how to use weapons in less time; and the doors to higher education are opened for us.

"For me, the worst thing about military service is having to leave my home, my parents, because I know I am going to miss them and lose the freedom I now have to do practically anything I want in my free time...in short, the freedom of civilian life that everybody likes.

"However, duty is duty, and I must do mine. And even though I have to make a sacrifice, I will make it with pleasure. Others have already done so and others will also have to do so. (Servando Perez Lobaina, Jr.)

"It was always clear to me that active military service was the duty of every young revolutionary. I always knew that in this way one prepared to defend his country and the revolution and even any sister country which was threatened by the enemy; however, I also was much concerned.

"I thought that after I had completed my military duty I would have to start to work and study at the same time, provided there was an opening at the university, which I doubted...and I lost hope with respect to higher education.

"Then I learned how preuniversity and technical school graduates were being called up by the FAR and really I had to change my way of thinking, my pessimism... I am getting back the desire and feeling for enrolling in a higher level, if not one way then another, but for sure...if they call me up, I will work hard to fully do my duty and get the best results.

"There was no information at my school about this new recruitment policy, and I know that many young men are unaware of it.

"Of course, I feel that it is more worthwhile to have a soldier in the FAR with a high educational level than to have one who does not." (Lazaro Perez, preuniversity student)

8143

CSO: 3010

POLEMIC ON 'CHEOS' AND 'CHEISMO' PUBLISHED IN YOUTH ORGAN

Havana SOMOS JOVENES in Spanish Oct-Nov 79 pp 2-3

[Discussion among preuniversity students and two SOMOS JOVENES reporters, Libertad and Victor]

[Text] The scene is the reading room of Saul Delgado Preuniversity School, in the Vedado. Students of the 11th and 12th grades are taking part in a polemic. The topic under discussion: the "cheos."

[Esther] "Cheos" are those who say "asere" and "consorte." They have a language of their own. They're bold and always want to attract attention.

[Yamira] They also have typical ways of dressing: extra wide shirts, shoes with very sharp pointed toes decorated with little balls, pants tucked inside their shoes....

[Esther] (Resumes her comment.) And their combs! Large, always blue, sticking out of their pockets.

[Reynaldo] (Completes the description.) Gold teeth, long fingernails, a half-peso coin in their ear. The women wear short skirts.

[Reporter] Many of them are not completely like that but are "cheos" nonetheless. Moreover, some good comrades have their "cheo" moments.

[Roberto] It's true that we also call someone who doesn't dress in style a "cheo." If a "cheo" goes to a party he doesn't know the latest dances and is always behind the times where music is concerned. He's backward in everything. He's strange and anachronistic. It's also possible for a comrade who's not "on the beam" to have something of the "cheo" about him. That is to say, when someone's backward in something he's "cheo"....

We continued our discussion of the "cheo" students.

[Julio] Because they have to wear uniforms at school they can't express themselves as they'd like to. Their "cheismo" takes every possible form: they don't wear their ties (in the schools in rural areas, that is) and leave their shirttails out.... When they talk they say "asere," "consorte," "jeva" and so on.

[Esther] The "cheo" is a "macho" type. He answers rudely and won't let a girl give him an argument.

[Roberto] He has bad manners....

[Esther] There's a boy in my class who's exactly like that. He has it in for any girl who doesn't appreciate his talents.

[Yamira] That's true, but some students don't dress like that and yet they behave that way too. They treat women with contempt and try to get their own way. They're "cheos" too.

[Julio] I know some girls who like to be treated that way.

[Esther] That's because they're the "cheas." (Laughter)

[Alicia] (Raising her voice.) When they show disrespect for a girl and a male person warns them or takes them to task, they back off.

[Jorge] Many of them are like that: boastful and cowardly.

[Niurka] They're undisciplined, show no respect for the teacher, wear their uniforms any way they want to, and usually get poor grades.

[Reporter] This kind of behavior can be combated. How are you combating it?

[Maribel] By admonishing them and giving them advice....

[Jorge] You have to stand up to them.

[Consuelo] The "pure cheos" talk and dress in a distinctive way. They're almost always antisocial individuals. They're the ones who spoil parties; they sneak in and start arguments. If you don't let them crash the gate they throw eggs and even rocks at the building where the party's being held.

[Reporter] Are all these "cheos" antisocial individuals?

[Jorge] No, but almost all of them are headed in that direction.

[Julio] (Returns to the attack.) I believe they have another common denominator: music. You hear them singing and humming "cheo" songs.

[Roberto] Some of the lyrics really leave much to be desired and serve to identify the "cheos." For example, "Aqui quien manda es Mulet" [Mulet's in charge here], and songs that call women "bad" and "treacherous"....

[Esther] And it's not really Cuban music. It's verses taken from cheap, vulgar songs that are far from reflecting our reality. We have good musicians: the Irakeres and the Nueva Trova, for example. The "cheos" don't identify with them.

We shall now summarize the characteristics of the "cheos"--the "rowdies" or "routinists."

They can be defined as "macho" types. They are noisy, dress outlandishly, and take liberties with the language. They constantly display bad breeding, like to provoke quarrels, gather in groups and are mostly cowards. In short, they have broken with a great many of the moral tenets of our society.

How can these attitudes be combated?

Warn young people who display signs of "cheismo"; strive to promote good manners; and challenge critically and forcefully any individual who attempts to impose this kind of behavior.

These are the ideas and conclusions of a group of young people. We don't have yours, though. Write us. We await your ideas and conclusions.

10992

CSO: 3010

NEW TRADITION BORN: BABIES REGISTERED BY CDR

Havana MUJERES in Spanish Jan 80 pp 24-25

[Article by Magaly Sanchez: "A Tradition Is Born"]

[Text] There's a celebration taking place tonight in the countryside. Inside the well-lit building, groups are commenting on the activity that will soon get under way. The residents of Guiro de Monigal, in Quivicán, will remember this night for years and years to come: the night when 10 local babies were entered in the CDR [Committees for the Defense of the Revolution] directory and the respective minors' cards were presented to their parents at a public ceremony.

There is a stir among the newsmen. The TV cameras and flash bulbs are catching the happy expression or the faces of the parents and also these little faces (some of which are sleepy, some wide awake) which of course know nothing today of what is going on around them.

Our national anthem supplies a note of solemnity, following which the responsible official of the CDR zone makes the opening address and speaks of the good fortune of these babies--who are harvesting the fruits of 20 years of revolution--and of the joy with which the community welcomes them in their midst.

With their babies, each couple comes forward in turn to the table where the entries are being made in the CDR directory. In each case, the mother holds the baby. The audience closely follows the progress of the ceremony. I look around me and note the satisfaction mirrored on every face. There is applause. Once again the cameras roll and the flash bulbs flash. Humberto Mesa, Wilfredo Martínez, Damaris Barea, Yalina Mena, Yaquelin Bare Barea, Jorge Bravo, Daniel Barrios, Michel Franchialfaro, Jasul Martínez, Jose Carlos Flandos.... The formal registration of the little ones has now been completed and the minors' cards presented to the parents. Once again there is applause, more enthusiastic than before.

A detachment of Pioneers from the America Latina School reads a statement. I hear the clear voice of the bearer of this message fill the room with

his words. As always when children participate and favor us with the freshness of their presence, there is joy among those in attendance. Much applause greets the words that are spoken with so much feeling:

"We, the Pioneers, want to express to the parents of each newborn our appreciation and our congratulations for officially incorporating a new member into our socialist society, and trust that he or she will be brought up in the principles of our revolution and will be as happy as we are happy. We urge the parents to prepare those who are newly registered today so that they will in the future all become members of our beloved organization--the Jose Marti Pioneers--and by their daily activities put into practice our motto: "Pioneers for communism. We shall be like Che!"

Comrades of the FMC [Cuban Women's Federation] enter, bearing bouquets of flowers. They present these fragile gifts--and other gifts--to the mothers of the little ones.

The official ceremonies have concluded. They are followed by a toast and by the festivities, which will last some additional time and provide a happy and sincere occasion for the local residents to get acquainted. A new tradition is being born in our rural areas. The moon is shining on high. A gentle rain, hardly more than a sprinkle, is beginning to fall. It bothers no one, however, because the night is especially beautiful for this occasion and because there is too much joy in everyone's heart for the festivities to be interrupted.

10992

CSO: 3010

COMPLAINT LETTER ON POOR APPAREL FOR WOMEN

Havana MUJERES in Spanish Jan 80 pp 18-19

[Text] Matanzas, 21 Sep 79
"Year 20 of Victory"

"Let's Talk" Section
MUJERES [WOMEN] Magazine
264 Galiano Street
Havana

Dear Comrades:

Several months ago I visited the editorial offices of MUJERES magazine. The purpose of my visit was to give the editor some ideas I have concerning the magazine and other more or less related matters. It wasn't possible for me to see her, but a woman comrade spoke with me and suggested that I write to the "Let's Talk" section, which welcomes opinions and expressions of concern over the matters that I shall discuss here.

In my opinion MUJERES is an excellent magazine which carries on political and educational work among women and fulfills this function by means of well-chosen articles dealing with a variety of subjects, including fashions in a fashion section.

It is true that MUJERES magazine cannot be considered a fashion magazine, for MUJERES is a political magazine.

We Cuban women now need a magazine that is devoted to fashions exclusively. There was a time when it would have been somewhat ridiculous to bring out a fashion magazine, for reasons that we all know: we could get only 4 meters of cloth a year. This situation ended with the parallel sale of woven fabrics. Through this system of sales we women are able to obtain material to make a more extensive wardrobe. The question now is: What patterns should we use?

The few patterns that appear in the fashion section of MUJERES can be regarded only as patterns for boys, girls and young women up to 20 years of age. A woman over 20 has as her only alternative either the shirtmaker or the patterns that are designed for the "full figure"--patterns that will inevitably produce "smocks for clucks."

Comrade, just stand in the door of 264 Galiano Street and observe the attire of 100 women who pass by. Of the 100, 99 will be wearing what has already become a uniform: slacks and a little pullover. There's nothing else available; it's the only recourse they have.

Another topic:

I don't know whether you are a very young person. If you are, you might look into the matter of which I shall now speak.

Years ago Woolworth's five and dime, and other stores, used to sell envelopes on the front of which was a woman's figure wearing the pattern that had been selected from an illustration by means of a number. The contents of the envelope consisted of the pattern, interpreted on tissue paper and broken down into the individual components of the pattern. All you had to do was cut the cloth in the shape of each piece of the paper and follow the steps indicated in the diagram which was included in the envelope to indicate the way in which the pieces were joined together. All of these patterns came in different sizes, in accordance with the requirements of the consumers. They came from the USA.

I believe--in fact, I am convinced--that in Cuba this service could be provided for working women. There are people who have the knowledge to undertake the task of providing this service; to get such a program under way you need only bring them together.

What women in this country are enduring with regard to the matter of wearing apparel is nothing short of tragic. I do not think that you are unaware of what the majority of us go through with the seamstresses. You know that.

As for the ready-made clothing that is supplied to the stores, we can speak only with scorn--for there's plenty of room for improvement:

1. The ready-made clothing is poorly made, that is to say, it is of fourth or fifth quality.
2. The designs are of the poorest quality. What resemblance do the designs of this clothing bear to the designs prescribed by the current styles that appear in MUJERES magazine?
3. The prices, to be sure, are of "first quality"....
4. A pattern is designed and is then repeated in all sizes and colors ad infinitum and ad nauseam, and immediately the classic uniform makes its appearance.

5. The patternmakers in the clothing factories are so lacking in imagination that their inventiveness has stopped short at this level.

I would appreciate a reply from you to all the questions I have set forth in my letter.

Olga Santamaria Dalmau

24815 Santa Cristina
Corner Union and Glorieta
Versalles, Matanzas

Comrade Olga Santamaria Dalmau
Versalles Subdivision, Matanzas

Dear Comrade:

Above all we wish to thank you for your words of praise for our magazine. We shall immediately undertake to respond to your other expressions of concern.

Indeed--as you correctly state--MUJERES is not a magazine that specializes in fashions but instead deals with all subjects of interest to the Cuban woman of today: her outstanding participation in our economic and political life; her concerns and also her desire--and opportunities--for cultural and vocational self-improvement; her participation in the mass organizations, culture, literature, sports, science, technology.... In general, our magazine attempts to reflect Cuban women as they are actually developing in our society.

The function of MUJERES is to deal with subjects which because of the nature of their content do not regularly appear in our press, such as the struggle for women's equality, both in society and within the family circle; maternity, and the upbringing of the new generation; cultural, vocational, technical, ideological and other forms of self-improvement; the experiences of women with respect to the harmonious combination of their duties as mothers, homemakers, workers and citizens; sex education; health education for women and children; the publicizing of the activities of the international women's movement and the struggle of the women of the entire world for a better and more just future; the superiority of the socialist way of life; and others.

Another fundamental aspect is the one relating to the family and to the problems that arise in this new phase, in which the concept of the family, and the concept of the relationships among the members of the family, are qualitatively different.

It is apparent from the foregoing that MUJERES is not--contrary to what is sometimes mistakenly believed--a fashion magazine; rather, the subject of women's fashions is one of a number of important subjects with which we deal.

The mission of our fashion section--as well as of the sections "Our Kitchen" and "A Thousand Ideas"--is to provide guidance for the family with respect to fashions, the improvement of one's personal appearance, consumer affairs, the solution of practical household problems, and the formation of new dietary habits--all within a sociological context that is consonant with our realities and possibilities. We are in agreement as to the need for a systematic publication dealing with fashions, although we are aware of the difficulties that still exist with regard to printing techniques, paper and ink shortages, and other considerations.

We shall for this reason transmit your concerns (and those of other readers who have brought up these matters) to the appropriate entity for analysis. For our part, this Women's Publishing Enterprise has already begun publication--on a very modest basis, once a year--of a booklet dealing exclusively with fashions and containing patterns for the summer and winter seasons.

As for the patterns you suggest, we are also pleased to inform you that we had already considered putting on the market, from time to time and in accordance with the capacity of the publishing enterprise, patterns that are in a variety of sizes, are based on the latest styles and are easy for everyone to make. You will have an opportunity to obtain the first of these patterns in the near future.

We frequently publish patterns for special cases--medium and extra large sizes, styles for older women, maternity styles, and even clothing for men and teenage girls--all presented in an appropriately balanced format and accompanied by the pertinent directions.

For considerations of space, and because of the aforementioned subjects which we are obligated to treat, it is not possible at the present time to increase the number of pages devoted to fashions.

Slacks have--to be sure--become an article of clothing that enjoys the favor of Cuban women, inasmuch as they are much more economical and practical for present-day living, and when combined with a modern blouse or smock constitute a suitable ensemble for any hour or activity. Nevertheless, we also find it very pleasing to attend political or cultural functions, theaters, cinemas, weddings and other events and see women who are dressed in elegant and varied fashion ranging from slacks to maxiskirts.

For this reason we do not agree with your statement that we all go around "in a uniform" consisting of slacks and a pullover.

On the other hand, there are persistent manifestations of bad taste in clothing, as for example the "tube" pants, which are excessively tight,

unesthetic, and more than revealing of any deficiencies in the wearer's silhouette, and the miniskirts, with which we were never in agreement and which can still be seen in our streets even though they went out of fashion a long time ago. Nor does it please us to see woman comrades wearing lace blouses with no brassiere underneath, nor the way they use the magnificent woven fabrics available to us, cutting them inexpertly in the process of doing so--with a mistaken concept of the word "use," of course.

We share your views concerning ready-made apparel and suggest that you read the critical article published in our November 1979 issue entitled "It's No Secret to Anyone."

We hope this response will satisfy not only you but other readers who have expressed similar concerns to us, including Magdalena Santiesteban of Velasco, Holguin.

Thank you again for your kindness in writing us. In the spirit of the revolution,

The Editors, MUJERES Magazine.

10992
CSO: 3010

DOMINICAN FRIENDS OF CUBA COMMITTEE MEETING

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 30 Jan 80 p 10

[Text] A directive from the Dominican Friends of Cuba Committee praised the patriotic and revolutionary qualities of Jose Marti, apostle of Cuban independence.

Dr Abelardo Vicioso gave a long speech during celebration of the 127th anniversary of the birth of the well-known Cuban poet and writer.

"Marti distinguished himself by having headed the revolutionary fight to liberate Cuba and Puerto Rico from colonialist domination," he said.

He added, "It is often forgotten that Marti was the first to recognize the danger of the nascent American imperialism for the countries of Latin America."

Dr Vicioso said in his speech "Jose Marti: Precursor of the Anti-Imperialist Movement in Latin America" that the liberator of Cuba "attentively studied the panorama presented by our country after the independence movement at the beginning of the 19th Century which gave the Latin American countries political and economic autonomy vis-a-vis Spain but did not constitute a social transformation which assured their independent march toward progress, as these countries continued to be victims of backward social structures which rested on a poorly developed and deformed economy for long years of colonialist domination."

Underscoring the revolutionary and independence-oriented qualities of Jose Marti, Dr Vicioso, a professor at the Autonomous University of Santo Domingo, said, "As a child, Jose Marti received an education at the Rafael Maria de Mendive school in Cuba which inculcated in him the feeling of love for his country."

He then added, "He was barely 15 years old when his patriotism was revealed in his verses and news articles which exalted the Cespedes uprising against the Spanish in 1868."

Dr Vicioso explained, "This activity of open confrontation with Spanish colonialism resulted in his imprisonment for a term of 6 years at hard labor."

The Dominican Friends of Cuba directive stated, "The quarries in Havana and the Isle of Pines bear witness to the harshness of the sentence imposed on the young patriot, a sentence that he did not totally complete, as in 1871 he was deported to Spain where he remained until 1874."

Vicioso said that those 3 years in exile "caused the maturing of the anticolonialist bent in Martí's mind."

The ceremony honoring Martí was held last night in the meeting room of the Masonic Temple on Arzobispo Portes Street in this capital. The following persons attended the meeting: Former president Juan Bosch and important leaders of the Dominican Liberation Party, Popular Socialist Party and Democratic Union.

With Professor Bosch and Dr Abelardo Vicioso at the speakers' table were the president of the Friends of Cuba Committee, Antinoe Fiallo. Drs Rafael Kasse Acta, Felix Servio Ducodrey and Jose Francisco Bido Medina were also present.

Singer-writers Victor Victor and Sonia Silvestre sang several numbers as part of the ceremony which was attended by a large crowd.

8143
CSO: 3010

EMIGRES URGED TO FIGHT FOR FREEDOM OF THEIR COUNTRY

Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO in Spanish 30 Jan 80 p 2

[Text] Last night, Cuban exile Alberto Martinez Echenique urged all his fellow countrymen residing in Santo Domingo to fight for the prosperity of their nation to liberate it from the oppression to which the fatherland of Jose Marti and Maximo Gomez has succumbed.

Martinez Echenique, president of the Brigade 2506, with headquarters in Miami, told the exiled Cubans, "Your task is to defend our fellow countrymen who are suffering today" under the Fidel Castro communist regime.

The Cuban exile spoke last night at the Hotel Santo Domingo on the occasion of the 127th anniversary of the birth of apostle Jose Marti. The dinner-ceremony was organized by the Association of Cuban Exiles Residing in Santo Domingo.

At the beginning of his speech, Martinez Echenique said that he was very pleased to have come from Miami to honor the birth of the apostle of Cuba and at the same time to thank the Dominicans for their demonstration of solidarity and the goodwill shown the Cuban exiles who are now outside their country for well-known reasons.

Referring to the struggle of the Cubans addicted to the government of Castro, Martinez Echenique said that liberation requires much sacrifice, much more than has been made up to now.

He said that the Cuban exiles must make every effort "required" to see the fatherland of Jose Marti and Maximo Gomez free. "We must conquer and liberate Cuba," Martinez Echenique said.

He said that the Cuban regime is moving in the direction of decadence, which means "that at this moment the young people are rebelling...and waging a battle inside Cuba," because of the strictness of a communist regime which does not tolerate public freedoms nor does it respect human rights.

"These young people are waking up," Martinez Echenique added; "however, it is necessary to have the cooperation" of all our countrymen who are located in the various countries of America to fight "to see our country liberated."

He said, "It is good to know that communism in Cuba is near the end of its rope...it is time for all of us Cubans to join together." He then added, "All of us must cooperate in the liberation of our country; that, indeed, is the inescapable duty of all of us."

He said that we Cubans in exile "are working hard at this"; i.e., to see Cuba freed from communism.

The president of Brigade 2506, with headquarters in Miami, addressing himself to the Cuban exiles residing in Santo Domingo, added, "This would be useless if you do not support me."

In addition to the thoughts already expressed, he said that one of the basic objectives of his presence in the Dominican Republic was "to establish the fact that anyone who insinuates that a Cuban is brandishing a weapon to harm a Dominican is lying and not telling the truth, even if the Dominican is not our friend," from the ideological standpoint.

Obviously, Martinez Echenique was referring to the denunciation made by the secretary-general of the PRD [Dominican Revolutionary Party], Dr Francisco Pena Gomez, to the effect that exiled Cubans living in Miami want to kill them.

He said, "Even though a Cuban makes common cause with Fidel Castro, he would be incapable of attacking a brother Dominican."

He added that the Cubans living in Santo Domingo "have been welcomed in a special way" and that "the only thing motivating them is the struggle to make this land prosperous and happy."

He explained that what the Cuban exiles are interested in "is living as best they can in this sister country, leaving things better than they found them and then returning to our fatherland," when it is liberated from the regime of shame and vexations to which it has succumbed.

He said that there will always be those who, influenced by "foreign doctrines, shower fairy tales upon our fellow countrymen" but that such doctrines were rejected for lack of substance and truth.

The annual Dominican dinner in honor of Marti opened with introductory remarks by the president of the Association of Cubans Residing in Santo Domingo, Danilo Garcia. Armando Lemus introduced Dr Manuel de Jesus Goico Castro who gave a speech on the apologia of Jose Marti.

The conference took up the following topics: Who Influenced Marti; Marti: Precursor of Modernism; Marti in Santo Domingo; and Marti's Universality and Current Applicability.

DOMINICA

BRIEFS

UK HELP IN OIL INDUSTRY--Roseau, Dominica, 10 Mar (CANA)--Dominica has moved a step closer to setting up its proposed essential oils plant. Industry Minister Michael Douglas has signed a contract with a United Kingdom firm of consultants to enable a thorough study of the island's essential oil industry. Dominica has several bay-oil plants, Pachuli and lime plants. The study of their potential is to be financed by the European Development Fund. Among the terms of reference of the consultants will be to advise government on the expansion and diversification of the production of essential oils and the subsequent promotion of agro industries utilising such oils. Part of the consultants job will be to identify a project concerned not only with increased production, but also with finished products such as perfumes, cosmetics and pharmaceuticals. The entire study is expected to cost some \$36,000. [Text] [FL171030 Bridgetown ADVOCATE-NEWS in English 11 Mar 80 p 3 FL]

CSO: 3020

JUSTICE MINISTER REFUTES LAWYERS OPPOSING DECREE 114

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 23 Feb 80 p 19

[Text] In his televised defense of Decree 114, Justice Minister Mario Antonio Solano presented an analysis of the decree and discussed other constitutional matters. Then he went on to say: "The arguments of the Bar Associations and other lawyers, whose ideology is well known, are the following:

"1) That the Government Junta recognized in Decrees 1 and 7 the validity of the 1962 Constitution, which established the legal limits of its actions; 2) That the Government Junta is a sovereign power and therefore cannot change the Political Constitution; 3) That Decree 114 has vague and ambiguous wording; 4) That the Junta's objectives are to reestablish the rule of law that has been violated, and to return to constitutional order; and 5) That Decree 114 is a threat to juridical security and paves the way for future arbitrary reforms of the Constitution.

"These arguments can be answered as follows:

"1) Just after the Junta was installed, Decrees 1 and 7 were issued, in which the validity of the 1962 Constitution was certainly recognized. The cabinet crisis at the beginning of the year contributed to the Christian Democrat Party's entry into the government; a new political pact was reached with that party whereby the Armed Forces Proclamation was redefined. There was obviously a need to clarify the constitutionally defined goals and objectives of the government, whose essential functions are to favor the needy classes of the Salvadoran people and make a permanent break with the oligarchy. It was within the context of this urgent need that Decree 114 was issued, and at no time has it departed from the stipulations of the Proclamation as redefined, or the Political Constitution of the republic.

"2) The Government Junta, which emerged as a result of a coup d'etat and which has a revolutionary orientation, respects the rules of the game that have been set down; under no circumstances will it tolerate being told capriciously how it should act, especially when all the arguments, totally lacking in sincerity and patriotism, are designed to defend the economic interests that the Junta wants to eliminate. No law regulates the operation of a

government spawned by a coup, so the Junta's limitations are not juridical in nature but rather ethical and political. Now, the government believes that from its ethical-political point of view, and in accordance with the Armed Forces Proclamation, it is necessary to undertake Agrarian Reform and nationalize the banking and foreign trade systems, as long as it stays within constitutional limits. Even though this action may arouse the ire of landholders, bankers and exporters and their attorneys, it is necessary in order to break up oligarchic power and raise the standard of living of the majority of Salvadorans, who are living in subhuman conditions.

"However, the Government Junta has maintained the 1962 Constitution just as it was written; the changes have been made only in the organic part (Decree 1). Thus, in all sincerity it must be recognized that the actions of the Junta have at no time led to anxiety or uncertainty.

"3) Decree 114 is not vague and ambiguous. It clearly states that the validity of the Political Constitution of 1962 is recognized to the extent that it is compatible with the nature of the regime and does not go against the postulates and objectives of the Armed Forces Proclamation of 15 October 1979, and its government line. How can Decree 114 be vague and ambiguous, if the nature of the present regime is already known (a regime in which there is an associated Government Junta which replaces the presidency, as well as ministers and undersecretaries who for the most part belong to the Christian Democrat Party)? How can it be vague and ambiguous if we already know the postulates and objectives of the Armed Forces Proclamation and if, furthermore, the philosophy or line of the Government Junta is already known through its decrees and agreements?

"In addition, the specific measures that the Junta intends to adopt have been set forth in Decree 114, so that there is nothing obscure or ambiguous there."

In numbers 4 and 5 Dr Solano explains the Junta's objectives of creating the necessary conditions for a peaceful life and for a far-reaching change. He also discusses the fact that lawyers have an "exaggerated" interest in juridical security.

8926

CSO: 3010

INDUSTRIAL SECTORS ASSOCIATION OPPOSES TAX REFORMS

San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 7 Mar 80 pp 3, 35

[Text] The amendments to the Income Tax Law contained in the Junta's Decree 73 will have an adverse effect on various sectors of the national economy, according to the Industrial Sectors Association (ASI).

It adds that the enforcement of these amendments could result in an imbalance in productive activity, and a loss of incentives for future investment. It could possibly lead to low expectations on the part of foreign capital.

The ASI indicates in a communique sent to this paper that if the reforms are implemented now, when there has been a marked slowdown in the economy, there is political uncertainty and a lack of liquidity among businesses, the impact will be difficult to bear.

For this reason, the ASI has made the following statements:

"1. At the beginning of the year, every business, considering its plans and activities and its assessment of the market in which it will be operating, prepares its budget of income and expenditures and uses that to estimate the taxes it has to pay under various laws.

"Decree 73 was issued on 20 December 1979, when practically all activity associated with the fiscal year had come to an end, placing most businesses in difficult positions such as the following:

"a) In accordance with Article 1 of the decree, a paragraph is added which creates an additional tax liability. By merging the activities of different businesses, the combination of the net income of each one pushes this group of businesses into a higher tax bracket because of the mere fact that a natural or juridical person has 51 percent or more of the stock. By all accounts this violates the principle of tax equity.

"b) Before, businesses paid their taxes after the close of the fiscal year; now, with the reforms, more money has to be paid in taxes because on the one hand, the tax for the earlier year has to be paid, and on the other hand

there has to be withholding for the months that go by as the business is operating.

"This will impose further limits on the businesses' capital, given the lack of liquidity that already exists, and due to the consequent tax liability that was not foreseen before the reform.

"2. The simple reform of the tax table should be considered extremely severe, since in five brackets the taxes range from 2.5 percent to more than 30 percent. This means that the brackets cover too much taxable income; when the income is compared with the tax rate, the burden appears to be too great. Moreover, the effect of the new table becomes still more progressive because of the fiction of creating the new business groups.

"3. It is true that, as mentioned in the first Whereas, there has been no real stimulus for foreign investment. With the reforms of this decree, particularly with regard to Articles 7, 8 and 9, the impact will be even more negative for the promotion of foreign investment.

"4. Finally, we would like to make it clear that the reform included in Article 17 contains a notification system that will seriously harm any person who is engaged in litigation due to enforcement or interpretation of the law.

"The ASI would once again like to make it clear that at no time has it opposed the reform of laws, either those aimed at achieving better public administration, or those designed to draw more income into the public treasury; it is just trying to warn government authorities, especially officials and experts, that legislation should not be undertaken for the mere goal of increasing revenue, because at a given moment the source of revenues is going to be taxed so heavily that it will be exhausted. As a result, the yields and benefits that could be obtained from an adequate and equitable taxation of economic activity for the benefit of the majority, would end up being negative. If the source of revenues is exhausted, there will no longer be a base from which the government can obtain the income it needs to fulfill its obligations."

8926

CS0: 3010

'NEPSZABADSAG' INTERVIEWS COORDINATION COMMITTEE LEADERS

AU251018 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 23 Mar 80 p 2 AU

[Interview with Mario Aguinada Carranza and Facundo Guardado y Guardado, leaders of the People's Revolutionary Coordination Committee of El Salvador, by Andras Kereszty: "With the Power of International Solidarity Against Imperialist Intervention in El Salvador; Discussion With People's Revolutionary Coordination Committee Leaders"--answers not specifically attributed to either speaker; date unspecified]

[Text] The political crisis in El Salvador has been at the center of international attention for weeks. Demonstrations, revolutionary acts and a bloody terror of the rightwing have been reported. Mario Aguinada Carranza and Facundo Guardado y Guardado, leaders of the People's Revolutionary Coordination Committee of El Salvador (an integrated organization of the progressive forces), who are staying in our country, have discussed the background to the events taking place in this Latin American country with our staff member Andras Kereszty.

[Question] Can we speak of a revolutionary situation in El Salvador?

[Answer] There is a realistic possibility for a democratic revolution. Objective conditions for it have come about; the capitalist system is coming to a crisis, particularly the economic model based on agricultural exports. At the same time, the political-military administration thus far employed by the ruling classes is also in a general crisis. Thus, there is the crisis of the economic and power system on the one side and the fact that the people--primarily the workers and peasants--do not accept the prevailing alignment of power on the other side.

[Question] Did the bloodless takeover of power last October indicate that the country's leading strata are not united either?

[Answer] It is a fact that the upper stratum of the oligarchy and bourgeoisie leading the country is not united. It includes a group--for the sake of simplicity, let us call it a traditional stratum--which has grown rich through the income of large agricultural estates and agricultural exports. This sector of the oligarchy wants a dictatorship--a rightist dictatorship--

and its intensification. Another sector of the upper bourgeoisie is more interested in certain reforms. The United States greatly supports this sector as well, which is only surprising when one first hears it. On the one hand, economic interests are involved: presently, there is U.S. capital invested in industry, trade and services in El Salvador. Moreover, U.S. political interests require that an internal explosion should be avoidable through reforms. The differences between these groups of the ruling class do not constitute irreconcilable divergences. The fundamental contradiction lies between the people and those in power. A relatively moderate wing came to power at the time of the October coup. The division between these two groups of the ruling class is disappearing. The reason for this is simple: a popular revolution has become a realistic possibility and this prospect frightens both groups.

[Question] The leftist movements have become united since the October coup. This is borne out, among other things, by your coordination committee. How influential is your organization?

[Answer] We are followed by approximately 80 percent of the country's people. We fundamentally influence the movement of the peasantry, the trade union movement and large groups of the intelligentsia. What has come about is a vanguard-like organization with broad relations with the masses. This is shown by the 17 March general strike. On our word, the country's life was paralyzed for 24 hours. Despite the terror, at least a quarter of a million people appear when we announce a mass meeting--and our country has a population of only 5 million people.

[Question] As you say, your committee is a vanguard-like organization. What ideas and objectives guide the organizations assembled within it?

[Answer] Four organizations are included in the Coordination Committee: the Communist Party of El Salvador, the Farabundo Marti Liberation Forces, the popular opposition and the People's Revolutionary Army. Our goal is the establishment of a united party following or prior to the revolution, our common objective is socialism. One can see that, through a process in two directions--the termination of division among those in power on the one hand and the unification of the left wing on the other--the situation has become strained to breaking point in our country. This is reflected in the daily news as well. We aspire now to an acceleration of the revolutionary transformation under the guidance of a unified leadership, on the basis of a homogeneous program and tactics. The forces opposing us want the "silence of the cemetery."

[AU251046] [Question] Can civil war be avoided in El Salvador?

[Answer] The revolutionary forces did not want civil war. For years, we have been working for a revolutionary transformation that does not call for bloodshed. However, the ruling stratum, fearing for its power, has blocked every possibility for a peaceful path. What is taking place now is the

extermination of the people, a veritable war against the people's masses. For our masses, there is no other way than armed self-defense. Unfortunately, one can no longer discuss whether there will be a civil war. We are in one already.

[Question] Alarming reports are being received about the United States preparing a military intervention in El Salvador....

[Answer] These reports are true. To a certain extent, there has already been a U.S. intervention. The junta has received \$50 million of military aid. The presence of U.S. soldiers called "advisers" is increasing. It is conceivable that the United States would deploy its marine force. At present, mercenaries are being trained at bases in Guatemala against us and attempts are being made to force, with the aid of the reactionary governments of the area, a so-called "peace corps." A large-scale direct U.S. military intervention remains as the third possibility. Such an intervention must be prevented. We say that, to forestall the need to cry for the people of El Salvador following the [word indistinct] of the revolution, the revolutionary, progressive and democratic forces of the world must be mobilized prior to an intervention.

The following is the guideline of our foreign policy, in the implementation of which we have already achieved certain successes: As many friends as possible must be acquired and advantage must be taken of the fact that U.S. policy is not homogeneously regarded in the Western camp, either. For instance, it is obvious that West European social democratic government politicians are dissociating themselves from the U.S. attitude toward our country. We are establishing political relations with the democratic countries of the Latin American area. Of course, our closest ties are with the progressive and revolutionary world forces. In the present international situation, not a single revolution's victory and consolidation is conceivable without the assistance and solidarity of the international progressive forces. International conditions have changed and so have revolutions. Our revolution is not a spontaneous, but a well organized and theoretically well-founded revolution. And we also feel that international solidarity is resolutely and consistently asserting itself. The international environment of our revolution is different, is more favorable, than that of the previous ones. And this gives us strength and it can prevent U.S. imperialism from suppressing the just struggle of the people of El Salvador.

CSO: 3010

ANEP CALLS FOR UNITY IN 'ECONOMIC WAR'

San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 1 Mar 80 p 13

[Text] The president of the National Private Enterprise Association (ANEP), Jose Eduardo Palomo Castillo, announced that ANEP has formed several committees for the study of the nation's social and economic problems, in order to offer alternatives for solving these problems after priorities have been established.

He made the announcement during his televised speech, which was heard with great interest by Salvadorans. He also said that the association has formed an independent task force whose sole objective will be to study and draw up a "National Economic Recovery Plan" to reactivate the economy and produce more investment, more sources of employment, and a higher standard of living, taking into consideration needs in education, housing, health and a social security plan that will guarantee human advancement overall.

In his introductory words, Mr Palomo Castillo stated that our country is falling apart, and that thousands of businessmen are in economic ruin, while hundreds of thousands of workers are beginning to suffer the disastrous effects of unemployment and hunger. "We are experiencing the most dramatic and difficult moment in our history," he stated. Later he called upon everyone "to save our country from chaos."

The president of ANEP asserted that now the productive sector must assume another role. "Today," he added, in his first television appearance, "we are breaking the silence. With the upcoming presentations we hope that you will see that changes really have taken place in ANEP, not just personnel changes, but also a new mentality."

Later on he said: "Our blame in staying at the sidelines in politics now commits and forces us to take decisive stands; by changing the errors of the past, we are inviting all who make up free enterprise to take a look and to take political action every day; first of all we must humanize business activity by appreciating being more than having."

Palomo Castillo also indicated that "we must also strive together to make sure we do not lose the economic war that is being waged by the enemy that destroys

jobs, that allows terrorism to prevent projects from being carried out in rural areas, that is leading to an insecurity which eats away at the enterprising spirit we once had."

The president of ANEP urged viewers not to join those who have accepted voluntary exile. "Furthermore," he added, "those who remain here and are becoming comfortably isolated, passively waiting for what might happen, are as much or more to blame as those who are in Miami, because they are eating up what little we have left." He went on to say, "We invite them and others to participate actively in the search for intelligent and peaceful solutions, in order to achieve a more just and worthy society. Anyone who adheres to the idea that there is no need for change here, I say to you that your position is harmful and that you should understand once and for all that no one can live in a system that does not ensure improvements for the vast majority."

He defined the position of ANEP, and asserted: "We cannot accept the Communist ideology propounded by leftist groups in order to install a Marxist-Leninist regime, and ANEP will struggle with all its might to prevent our nation from falling into the clutches of international Communism."

During his presentation, Palomo Castillo declared that ANEP would be in a position to support a government platform that proposed important objectives, including: achieving political, economic and social stability within a process of democratization; fulfilling the proposals of the Armed Forces Proclamation of 15 October within the guidelines of the 1962 Constitution; calling for general elections within a reasonable period; and bringing about profound structural changes within a climate of peace and tranquility.

Finally, he said: "ANEP has no political affiliation of any type, not with the right or the left, much less with ultra-rightists or any other radical position on the Salvadoran political spectrum."

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CSO: 3010

JUNTA MEMBER VIEWS AGRARIAN REFORM CONCEPT

Agrarian Reform Viewed

PA230335 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 22 Mar 80 pp 7, 29 PA

[Excerpt] "The agrarian reform is not a simple matter of distributing lands among the peasants. It also involves the improving of the educational and cultural level of the rural dweller," said Col Jaime Abdul Gutierrez, member of the Government Revolutionary Junta.

Expanding this point of view Colonel Gutierrez said that "the agrarian reform plan also includes increasing the family income, the marketing of agricultural products, financing of peasant associations, technical education for workers and in short a series of aids that will undoubtedly create new men in a new society with new characteristics, which will tend to create a happy society."

Reform Advancing

PA230336 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 23 Mar 80 pp 3, 10 PA

[Excerpts] "Except for a [word indistinct] problem the agrarian reform process is developing successfully in the country," said Deputy Secretary of Agriculture and Cattle Industry Alberto Villacorta.

He said that the problems are understandable because they are the result of the human nature of the affected persons. We are working now to make them aware of the importance of cooperating so that everything comes out well for the benefit of the country's dispossessed majorities.

The reaction is characteristic and natural, especially in an environment like ours.

He concluded by saying that peasant cooperation has been great and that they have fully supported the Agriculture Ministry technicians. He made an appeal to all peasants who want to join the agrarian reform and asked them to contact the agricultural training center in [word indistinct] as well as in confiscated ranches in order to be properly guided and to eliminate any doubts.

PAPER REJECTS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

PA251830 Guatemala City DIARIO DE CENTRO AMERICA in Spanish 14 Mar 80 p 3 PA

[Editorial: "Cuba and the USSR Want Carte Blanche To Impose a Government on Guatemala"]

[Text] The accusing resolution against Guatemala issued by the UN Human Rights Commission noting that there are "repeated violations of the basic rights" in our country--as reported by the international press agencies--reveals a complete ignorance regarding the Guatemalan situation. This resolution disregards the USSR's determination to expand its areas of influence in Central America. It also contains an irony which makes the statement ridiculous and this is the fact that Cuba was one of the few nations which supported the draft of the resolution.

Cuba must have used some other country to promote a resolution which clearly follows an order given in a capital other than Havana.

It is ironic that Cuba presents itself as the accuser in a case of human right violations at the United Nations when the OAS has publicly condemned Fidel Castro's regime for flagrant human right violations and has stressed the fact that "there are people in (Cuban) jails who have never been tried, against whom there is no evidence and who have never had an opportunity to defend themselves before an impartial judge. They are in prison simply because they were considered 'harmful.'"

Regarding democracy, human rights and freedom in Cuba, the OAS has stated that "the legal system in Cuba bans freedom of speech and any statement of disagreement with the socialist system." The OAS has also noted that "the political prisoners are subjected to hard labor which is a violation of the agreement of the international labor organization on the matter, ratified by the Cuban Government. [quotation marks as published]

It is natural that Cuba was directly interested in this resolution issued by the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva, Switzerland. It is very probable that it even received instructions to promote this condemnation against Guatemala. This is part of a campaign aimed at provoking social and economic chaos in our country, destabilize the democratic institutions

and discredit the de jure government in order to create a social economic and political climate that would allow extreme leftists to take over power through violence in view of the fact that they could never count on the popular votes. For this reason, they see that the democratic way is closed to them.

This campaign is being waged domestically, but supported from abroad, especially by international organizations. One of the battles waged in the latter is the resolution presented to and approved by the UN Human Rights Commission. Cuban participation in this campaign clearly shows the aims behind this game. It so clearly reveals which forces are acting against Guatemala, that it shows that the lack of support at present for Soviet expansionism is so great that it had to use an actor who can no longer wear a mask, Cuba, and endangers disclosing the goal sought.

William Bowdler, assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs has confirmed the "Cuban presence in Nicaragua" to newsmen. Cuba would like to have a "Cuban presence in Guatemala" soon.

Either the UN Human Rights Commission has swallowed the Soviet-Cuban hook, or it is backing the Soviet expansionist plan, which seeks to expand its spheres of influence in the American continent and has its sights set now on Central America.

CSO: 3010

PAPER COMMENTS ON SOLUTION TO BELIZE PROBLEM

PA252202 Guatemala City PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 17 Mar 80 p 2 PA

["Actualidad Nacional" column: "Negotiations Are Fundamental for Solution of the Belize Problem"]

[Excerpts] Some foreign news media are again falling into the habit in dealing with the Guatemalan conflict with Great Britain over Belize of publishing speculations, often whimsical, based on imaginary or biased information. While this is one aspect of the problem, another one deals with it in a manner that is quite credible and which in the case of Guatemala must be analyzed carefully.

In this respect we have the attitude of THE OBSERVER of London, which leaves much to be desired in objectivity, which likes speculating and is carried away by its own imagination. This would be irrelevant if it did not lend itself to misinterpretation.

Despite ill-intended and biased speculations, the truth is that to the Guatemalan Government's knowledge, the British Government has reiterated its desire to find a negotiated settlement to the problem. This has been announced twice—once, prior to Price's last trip to London and then again afterwards. Meanwhile, the Guatemalan Government has continued to maintain that Guatemala and Great Britain are the only parties involved in this conflict and that, therefore, intervention by a third party in the negotiations is unacceptable. As a matter of fact, we must mention that the presence of Belize, with a unified political delegation, according to what the political parties in Belize and the British Government agreed, and which was permitted by Guatemala, is not a party to the conflict, but only is attending as an assistant to the British.

When we referred before to unusual aspects of the problem of Belize, we were referring to the attitude of some countries which have changed their position by withdrawing the moral support they were giving our cause. This does not surprise us if we analyze the reasons for that change, for instance the case of Nicaragua, whose alliance with Cuba and in general with the Soviet bloc we could understand, even considering that such an alliance offends all morals, requiring abandonment of ties and traditions which had once been considered unwavering. This is a sad situation, like the example set by New Delhi.

GOVERNMENT, PARTIES, CHURCH TO DISCUSS UPSURGE OF VIOLENCE

Violence Encouraging Tribalism

FL182358 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 18 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The government is to invite leaders of the two major political parties and the church to a meeting to discuss ways of dealing with the upsurge of violence in the western section of the corporate area. In a statement to the House of Representatives this afternoon, the minister of national security, Dudley Thompson, said the meeting would be called no later than this week. He said the government had taken note of the upsurge of violence and that it intended to deal with the situation firmly and impartially.

Calling for the cooperation and assistance of citizens in the areas concerned, Mr Thompson said complaints that he had got from both sides suggested that the violence was connected to and encouraging political tribalism. Mr Thompson also commented on certain press reports on the violence which he said could only be interpreted as incitement to disaffection and partisan divisiveness among security forces. This he said was a great disservice to the public and undermined the capacity of the security forces to perform their duties.

JLP Will Not Attend Meeting

FL192247 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The opposition JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] says it will not attend any meeting called by the government to discuss the recent upsurge in political violence unless the prime minister withdraws the statement he made last Friday in which he accused the JLP of being responsible for the violence. The JLP is contending that the Jamaica Council of Churches had proposed a meeting for next week's Thursday to discuss the state of violence and this it was prepared to attend. However, the opposition said that yesterday the minister of national security announced that he had summoned the meeting for sometime this week involving both political parties and the church to discuss the matter. A spokesman for the

Council of Churches pointed out that the meeting was being brought forward to tomorrow at the suggestion of the prime minister who had emphasized that the urgency of the situation merited early discussion. But the JLP has objected to the government's involvement in (?settling) a new date for the talks.

CSO: 3020

DISCUSSION ON FINANCE MINISTER BELL RESIGNATION, NEW APPOINTMENT

Bell Resigns

FL241248 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 24 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The minister of finance, Mr Eric Bell, has resigned. Mr Bell's resignation came yesterday after decision by the National Executive Council of the PNP [People's National Party] to recommend that it abandon efforts to obtain an interim agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

In a statement outlining the reasons for his decision, Mr Bell noted that he had been finance minister for the past 2 years during which he had been involved in various negotiations with the fund. During these negotiations with the IMF and related institutions, Mr Bell said he had agreed with those with whom he dealt that Jamaica would be concluding a stand-by arrangement with the IMF. It is against this background, Mr Bell said, that he now found himself unable to continue as minister of finance in circumstances which would require him to assume the opposite position.

Mr Bell said that in accepting his resignation, Prime Minister Manley had expressed full understanding of his position. Mr Bell said he fully respects and accepts the decision of the NEC and would support the party and government in their determined efforts to pursue successfully the alternative economic path.

The minister of state in the Ministry of Finance, Senator Richard Fletcher, is also expected to tender his resignation today.

Small Appointed

FL251248 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 25 Mar 80 FL

[Text] Prime Minister Manley has announced the appointment of Mr Hugh Small as the new minister of finance. He replaces Mr Eric Bell who resigned on Sunday following the decision of the National Executive Council of the PNP [People's National Party] to recommend the government discontinue its negotiations for an interim agreement with the International Monetary Fund. The Minister of State for Finance Senator Richard Fletcher has also resigned over the same issue.

Mr Small, who was minister of education, youth and sports, is being replaced in that ministry by Dr Phyllis McPherson-Russell, a former minister of education. She'll be supported by Mr Derrick Heaven, who's been appointed minister of state with special responsibility for youth and sports.

Reaction to Bell Resignation

FL242336 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 24 Mar 80 FL

[Text] As reactions come in, opposition leader Edward Seaga has said that the resignation of Minister of Finance Eric Bell and the rejection of the IMF by government are both the results of the takeover of the People's National Party by what he termed the Marxist-communist wing of the party. In a statement this afternoon Mr Seaga said that long after Mr Bell has been replaced and the memory of the IMF has faded, the new leaders of the PNP will remain in a position to continue to devastate the country with policies of ruination. In the short term, he said, collapse is imminent. The JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] leaders declared that the opposition was not concerned with the acceptance or the rejection of the IMF. The main concern, he said, was to what extent foreign exchange could be secured to keep the economy operating and to achieve growth and development whether these resources came from the IMF or elsewhere. Mr Seaga called on government to state in the clearest terms the alternative it hoped to pursue setting out details of the amounts involved to maintain the flows of foreign exchange necessary to keep the economy operating, and also identifying the sources of such funds. The opposition leader said the JLP intended to issue a comprehensive statement on the economic impact of the PNP decision as soon as the cabinet had taken its position on whether it would support the party decision.

CSO: 3020

DEBATE CONTINUES ON IMF DECISION

Letter of Intent Not Signed

FL182341 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 18 Mar 80 FL

[Text] The chief negotiator for the International Monetary Fund in Jamaica, Mr Omar Albertelli, leaves the island today without the letter of intent he had hoped to take with him. Mr Albertelli has been in the island for just over a week during which it is understood that he held discussions with government officials and representatives of the Bank of Jamaica.

For a report on these developments, here is (Winston Dunn): [Begin (Dunn) recording] The IMF requested the letter of intent as clear documentary evidence that Jamaica was willing to enter into another agreement with the fund for the next year. But the letter was not signed by the government as debate on the country's economic future and in particular on the IMF path is still taking place within the ruling PNP [People's National Party]. The party's National Executive Council is to meet this Saturday at the (Malaguite) Hyatt Hotel in Ocho Rios to take a final decision on whether to continue with the IMF or to adopt the alternative economic path. Saturday's meeting will be a followup to an earlier NEC meeting held two weeks ago. JBC [Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation] news understands that delegates to that meeting were divided into six groups corresponding to the party's regions in order to debate and decide on the economic path. At the end of the discussion there was overwhelming unison indicating that the country has had enough of the IMF. However, some state officials at the meeting requested that a final decision on the matter be deferred until this weekend's NEC meeting. But it is understood that the IMF had been seeking for the signing of the letter of intent before this Saturday's NEC meeting. This position has been strongly opposed by the majority of party officials who feel that such an action would be directly in contravention of the position of the NEC, which under the PNP constitution, is the highest decision-making body after the annual conference. Mr Albertelli is again expected to return to the island by Friday coming. But whether he gets the letter of intent to take (?along with him) next week will depend on the outcome of this

debate within the PNP. That party's general secretary, Dr D. K. Duncan, is now off the island visiting the Soviet Union. He's expected well back before Saturday's NEC decision. This is (Winston Dunn) reporting for JBC news. [end recording]

PNP Elements Favor IMF Program

FL191814 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1730 GMT 19 Mar 80 FL

[Excerpt] A meeting of the PNP's [People's National Party] Executive Committee which was set for today to discuss the IMF insistence that the letter of intent be signed before Saturday's broader NEC [National Executive Council] meeting has been cancelled. Decision on whether Jamaica should take the new IMF program or adopt an alternative economic path is therefore likely to be left for delegates at Saturday's National Executive Council meeting.

The party's Executive Committee is a subcommittee of the National Executive Council which has a broader representation of party delegates and is the highest decision-making body at the conference. Factions of the party which are in favor of retaining the IMF were understood to be attempting to get the proposed Executive Committee meeting today to overrule the broader NEC decision to reject the IMF. JBC [Jamaica Broadcasting Corporation] news understands, however, that another effort to convene an executive meeting is to be made in Friday when the IMF's Mr Omar Albertelli returns to Jamaica.

Intense lobbying is understood to be going on inside the party by elements who want the NEC decision rejecting the IMF to be reversed.

CSO: 3020

BRIEFS

PNP OFFICIAL VISITS ALGERIA, USSR--PNP [People's National Party] General Secretary Dr D. K. Duncan returned to the island late last night after visiting Algeria and the Soviet Union. According to a spokesman for the PNP Dr Duncan held fruitful party to party discussions with representatives of both the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the National Liberation Front of Algeria. In both cases the spokesman said, party cooperation agreements were reaffirmed and the fraternal parties brought up to date on the social and economic situation in Jamaica. [Text] [FL220055 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 21 Mar 80 FL]

WOMEN'S MOVEMENT REJECTS IMF--There has been further reaction to the government's decision to discontinue negotiations with the IMF. In a statement, the women's arm of the PNP [People's National Party] said it supported the recommendation made by the [PNP] National Executive Council. The women's movement said it recognized that the decision of no IMF talks would require the highest possible levels of discipline, organization, commitment and understanding. It said that critical to the success of this path must be the total mobilization of all peoples to get involved in various areas of national life. The statement added that the women's movement had convinced itself to be in the vanguard of this struggle and had already begun a program of [words indistinct] work. And it has called on all women to give their fullest support to the recommendation of the NEC and to play an active role in insuring its victory. [Text] [FL252253 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 25 Mar 80 FL]

CABINET ACTION COMMENDED--The Communist Party of Jamaica has also commended the cabinet for its rejection of the IMF path. The CPJ noted that by rejecting assistance from this international bank, the cabinet has given a positive signal that it is now ready to lead the fight for self-reliance and economic independence. [Text] [FL252258 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 25 Mar 80 FL]

ERADICATION OF LAWLESSNESS URGED--The executive of the Police federation has urged the entire society irrespective of any political affiliations to join hands with the police force in eradicating lawlessness and crime from Jamaica. In a news release, the federation said it had been receiving a spate of complaints from various sections of the force about political

interference, noting that these complaints had increased since the announcement of the impending general elections, the federation assured its members that the maintenance of law and order was the sole function of the force. The release said that despite reported threats on the life of members of the federation's executive because of their stand against political interference, the federation (?intended) to maintain its position. Accordingly, the police federation said it had instructed all its members to perform their duties seriously and impartially and urged members of the society to desist from inflammatory tactics which might lead to the wanton loss of life. [Text] [FL261927 Kingston Domestic Service in English 1830 GMT 26 Mar 80 FL]

IMF DECISION INFORMATION REQUESTED--The executive director of the Private Sector Association, (Johnny Johnson), says the organization is interested in learning as quickly as possible what is the alternative source of financing to that which was to be provided by the IMF and the other agencies of the international monetary system. He says he hopes this information will be given as soon as possible as the country was now in urgent need of raw material to keep the factories open and purchase fairly significant quantities of food, medicine and (?other) essential supplies. Given the PSOJ [Private Sector Organization of Jamaica] initial reaction to the PNP rejection of the IMF, Mr (Johnson) said the organization hopes that the alternative path being adopted by the PNP would bring in the necessary foreign exchange soon so that layoffs could be kept to a minimum. Asked to comment on the IMF itself, Mr (Johnson) said he did not feel the IMF had been a negative factor in the economic crisis Jamaica has been experiencing over the past three years. He said the IMF had given Jamaica more money than any other source had been prepared to and that it has been a lifeline to Jamaica. [Text] [FL242343 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2230 GMT 24 Mar 80 FL]

JLP, PNP SUPPORTERS DEMONSTRATE--Rival political groups of people have converged on the southern and northern ends of the House of Parliament shouting rival political slogans. The JLP [Jamaica Labor Party] group, (?carrying) placards, is demanding the resignation of Prime Minister Manley while the other group from the southern end consisting of PNP [Ruling People's National Party] are demonstrating in support of the prime minister. So far, the police have not reported any incidents and they said that the demonstrators have been peaceful. Prime Minister Manley is expected to address parliament at a quarter to six this afternoon on the cabinet's deliberations on the PNP's rejection of the IMF. [Text] [FL252039 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 25 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

NICARAGUA

SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE DEPLORES ROMERO'S MURDER

PA261748 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 26 Mar 80 PA

[Communique by Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity With Peoples on murder of Salvadoran Archbishop Romero--read by announcer]

[Text] To the people of Nicaragua and the world: The Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity With Peoples, considering:

That the sister people of El Salvador have throughout their history been subjected to exploitation and crime by the domestic oligarchy with the consent and support of U.S. imperialism, which has backed the military regimes and the enemies of the people;

That this violence has assumed a genocidal character in the last several months during which a military-Christian Democratic junta has been imposed on the Salvadoran people which is nothing more than an instrument of the oligarchy and imperialism;

That this junta, far from stopping the wave of crime which is bleeding El Salvador's best children to death, has become an accomplice in the murders carried by the national guard, the army and the paramilitary gangs of the oligarchy and has limited itself to proclaiming reforms which do not have the people's support;

That U.S. imperialism is directly responsible for these crimes against humanity because it supports this oligarchy with military equipment and money to purchase more arms which are used to attack the heroic Salvadoran people;

That the Salvadoran people, far from assuming a conformist position, have been developing a just struggle against their historic enemies and that this struggle has cost the lives of thousands of workers, peasants and students at the hands of the henchmen who have extended their murderous actions against distinguished representatives of the Catholic Church who have identified themselves with the just interests of the Salvadoran people;

That this criminal attitude yesterday, 24 March, reached the most unprecedented level of atrocity of recent Latin American history by taking the life of Monsignor Oscar Arnulfo Romero, who had become the most consistent pastor of the Central American Church by openly (?denouncing) the enemies of the people;

That the murder of Monsignor Romero [words indistinct] the wave of violence which the privileged classes of El Salvador have unleashed against the heroic Salvadoran people; therefore:

1. We condemn U.S. imperialism, the oligarchy and its lackeys and the military-Christian Democratic junta for this atrocious murder of Monsignor Oscar Romero.
2. We reaffirm our revolutionary belief that nothing and no one can stop the Salvadoran people's victory.
3. We appeal to the Nicaraguan workers, peasants, students, intellectuals and women in order to, as faithful interpreters of Sandino's ideals, redouble our solidarity with the Salvadoran people who today more than ever require internationalist fraternity to win their final liberation.

Issued in Managua at 1000 hours 25 March 1980. [signed] for the Nicaraguan Committee of Solidarity With Peoples: Sandinist Workers Central, Farm Workers Association, Sandinist Defense Committees; Association of Nicaraguan Women [words indistinct] 19 July Sandinist Youth, National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, Union of Journalists of Nicaragua, National Autonomous University Student Center, Ruben Dario University Professors Association and Ruben Dario University Workers Union.

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

ROMERO LIKENED TO PEDRO CHAMORRO

PA251515 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 25 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The teletype machines were going at an unusual pace tonight to tell the world that Oscar Arnulfo Romero, archbishop of El Salvador, had been assassinated. The news has caused an explosion of commentaries foreboding disaster for the Salvadoran people. Some have already stated that Monsignor Romero's death is comparable to Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro Cardenal's slaying and that it can be expected that it will touch off a definitive insurrection in the fraternal nation.

The news is serious. [words indistinct] for the liberating struggle of the Salvadoran people who are starting to wake up from the drowsiness in which U.S. imperialism with the [words indistinct] and complicity of the bourgeoisie which controls public and economic power in El Salvador has kept it. [Words indistinct] the killing of the head of the Salvadoran Catholic Church are in sight. For the past 2 years Monsignor Romero had been pointing to and naming the crimes, repression, exploitation and persecution of the Salvadoran people. His Sunday sermons accused the government and the army of having a violent attitude and attacking human rights.

Monsignor Romero had warned the military government and the civilian-military junta that the violence unleashed by the elite would generate the violence of the downtrodden and that if the intention was to find a solution to the national political crisis they should act with prudence, with justice and reduce the repression that had cost the people so much blood. The archbishop constantly denounced violations of human rights and asked the government and the moneyed class to treat the underprivileged, whose poverty is untenable, better, and distribute the national wealth fairly so they could be better off.

Only last week press dispatches carried Monsignor Romero's denunciation that a dynamite charge used to try to blow up the church in which he was saying mass one afternoon had been found. Efforts were made to destroy the radio station of the Salvadoran Catholic Church with a powerful bomb. A few days later, the prelate said he had received persistent anonymous telephone calls to be killed for favoring subversion. Romero said he thought those threats

were made by hotheads who can be found everywhere but he did not think they would be carried through; in any event, he reported this to the military authorities so they would take action.

The explosive situation in his country where life, as in the last few days of the Somoza dictatorship in Nicaragua, is not worth anything, kept the archbishop of San Salvador from coming to Nicaragua last week to attend the meeting of heads of the Episcopal conferences of Central America hosted by Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo. Romero was devoted to defending his flock and his people around the clock. His death no doubt has come as a shock to the Salvadoran people who must foresee the consequences that it will have. The democratic nations of the world are voicing their solidarity with the Salvadoran people. As he said in one of his last homilies, the Salvadoran people have won the right to insurrection through the day to day aggression to which they have been subjected in the past few years.

This is the result of military rule, armed oppression, encroachment upon freedom and the mockery by the colonels or generals of the electoral rights and legitimate hopes of the people. What will happen now in El Salvador? We think that the reaction of the people will be implacable against the responsible parties and the accomplices of this unthinkable crime. Meanwhile, the church worldwide is in mourning. It was never believed that the tailspin the Salvadoran people are in would go to the extreme of attacking the highest church authority, but his death will no doubt not remain a mystery or go unpunished. Tragedy looms over the Salvadoran people. We can only state once more our revolutionary fellowship with the fraternal nations, hoping it can soon step out of the criminal cul de sac in which it has been placed.

CSO: 3010

STATION HAILS ROBELO'S CRITICISM OF GOVERNMENT

PA191421 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 0300 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

["Those Words" feature by Joaquin Absalon Pastora]

[Text] The political spectacle that we Nicaraguans watched this past weekend is healthy. Never before had a political leader and member of the government criticized the revolutionary government the way Alfonso Robelo indirectly did.

The most convincing outcome of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement meeting is the fact that both those who [work] indistinct] as well as those in attendance freely expressed their views without anyone interfering or taking reprisals against a distinguished and controversial politician who--and this is the admirable part of the freedom witnessed--is also a member of the National Reconstruction Government Junta. It is thus understood that the political pluralism proclaimed by the revolutionary government from its very beginnings is being respected.

Alfonso Robelo's speech was critical and for us it represented a typical opposition speech. Without actually calling things by their name, the government junta member pointed out horrors even though (he also mentioned some virtues). Within the government there is a critic who will remain vigilant in his party's name. Everybody has the right to think, and if as has been said, all opinions are respected, Robelo's views and his political ideology must be respected. But we think we Nicaraguans must enforce the vigilant and active stand required by the national reconstruction government program, without distracting ourselves with the political diversion provided by these meetings.

We think that once our reconstruction goals are achieved, the Nicaraguan people can choose their political ideology and say what they want--whether through the Sandinist Front, Democratic Movement, Social Democracy, Social Christianity, Conservative Party or Communist Party. But at this point, all efforts should be concentrated on the national reconstruction program because it is impossible for a devastated country such as ours to waste its time on party politics.

We think it is not yet timely to talk about elections even though the revolutionary government has the great responsibility of holding them at the right time because people are the source of all power and without their participation nothing and nobody can achieve victory.

Alfonso Robelo, whose spirit of struggle since the days of the insurrection cannot be denied, has defined his course. Through his ideology and political pluralism he [words indistinct]. The authorities for their part, have shown that they respect him and the healthy expression of his ideas, which take us away from a dictatorial or single-party government and present us with alternatives from which to choose the course that seems more useful to Nicaraguan interests.

Aside from Robelo's views, the most notable thing about the political event held Sunday at the Polideportivo is the respect shown for the right of others to organize in a climate of freedom, unhindered by anyone--particularly if one considers that the opposing critic is a member of the government junta.

This is a very important truth, worthy of being celebrated in a country that had always been dominated. The past was marked by [word indistinct], but the first light of self-determination can now be seen.

CSO: 3010

OFFICIAL QUESTIONS HUMAN RIGHTS BODY CREDIBILITY

PA220057 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 16 Mar 80 p 18A PA

[Article by Victor Hugo Marillo S.]

[Text] "The Permanent Human Rights Commission (CPDH) has no credibility in Nicaragua," journalist Angela Saballos stated Friday evening. Saballos is in charge of the Nicaraguan Government junta's press, radio and television department.

Miss Saballos, who visited this paper's offices the day before yesterday, expressed her views as a private citizen rather than as a government official.

According to the journalist, the CPDH has lost credibility because its coordinator, Jose Esteban Gonzalez, is a member of the Nicaraguan Social Christian Party and "has taken advantage of the opportunity to engage in political activities."

The journalist thus referred to the charge made before the CPDH by some 45 people, relatives of individuals who disappeared shortly after the Somozist dictatorship's fall last July. These people have accused the Sandinist militiamen of having executed a large number of Somozist prisoners who were jailed in La Polvora prison in Granada.

The charge added that between 30 and 40 prisoners--according to the CPDH figures--had been killed in the "Granada massacre," as the case has been called.

Jose Esteban Gonzalez also claims that over 330 people disappeared from that city in the wake of the Sandinist National Liberation Front's victory.

According to the charge, Marvin Gonzalez Ruiz, whose battle name was "Wilmer," is responsible for these developments. "He was in charge of that city's command when the executions took place," Gonzalez says.

According to the CPDH, a copy of this charge was sent to Attorney General Ernesto Castillo the day before yesterday.

We tried to obtain Dr Castillo's view, but he is not in Nicaragua. We were also unable to talk to a number of deputy ministers.

Ministry official Dr Elias Rodriguez said he knows nothing about this, but he trusts the authorities would determine responsibilities by means of an investigation.

A few days after the Sandinist victory, our correspondent Guillermo Fernandez R. made similar charges during a tour through Esteli, Chinandega, Leon and Matagalpa.

Different Situation

Angela Saballos commented that aside from Jose Esteban Gonzalez' political tendencies and proselitizing activities, the CPDH coordinator has not realized that Nicaragua's political circumstances have changed.

"In those days," she added, "a criminal dictatorship was being fought; circumstances were different. Now one cannot even talk about the existence of political prisoners, but of war criminals."

In her attack on Gonzalez' position, the journalist recalled that last year Jose Gonzalez had denounced the presence of children in Nicaraguan jails whom, he charged, were being mistreated by the Sandinists.

"On that occasion," Saballos commented, "it was shown during the visit by Costa Rican First Lady Estrella Zeledon de Carazo that the prisoners were not being abused and that they could not be regarded as children."

The official hoped, nonetheless, that if there is any ground to these charges, the Sandinist government will be willing to investigate them.

Press Freedom

"We fought for press freedom; we have martyrs who died for that freedom, such as Dr Pedro Joaquin Chamorro," Saballos noted. The journalist has worked for the newspaper LA PRENSA and in several radio and television programs.

She nonetheless warned that this struggle depends on what press freedom is taken to mean.

"There is press freedom in my country. The government officials' activities can be criticized, since the government itself has asked for criticism," she indicated. The very fact that there is freedom of the press and that it is being discussed determines that criticism must be "objective and truthful."

Regarding the case of journalist Oscar Leonardo Montalban, who was suspended by the Union of Journalists of Nicaragua earlier this year, she stated that this organization had repeatedly warned Montalban against his "excesses" while exercising his profession.

According to her, the possibility of rehabilitating him has not yet been discussed and Montalban has not shown any interest in requesting an annulment of that decision.

Literacy

Commenting on the literacy campaign whose organization and orientation has created unrest among certain Nicaraguan and foreign sectors, Angela Saballos admitted that the crusade has a strong political content "because it is a combined process."

But she said that the above "does not threaten the political and ideological pluralism that the government junta promised when it was constituted in our capital shortly before the fall of Gen Anastasio Somoza Debayle."

As evidence of this, she mentioned Alfonso Robelo's statements, who has held political meetings and recently asked his compatriots to join his party, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement.

CSO: 3010

WHEELLOCK SCORES FARMERS FOR NOT PRODUCING

PA201556 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpt] A problem has arisen in the country as a result of big businessmen who are threatening not to produce if their privileges are not guaranteed. In Nicaragua's current situation, the essential task is production. The consolidation of the revolution depends to a great extent on efficient production. In these crucial times, cottongrowers, who are only interested in amassing huge amounts of money as they did in the past, are now threatening that they will not plant cotton. However, there is an unquestionable reality. The revolution cannot be halted by the selfish attitudes of the business sector. The revolution has to advance. Some members of the private sector are trying to justify the drain of capital from enterprises. There are cottongrowers who have said they will not plant. The Superior Council of private enterprise has issued a number of communiques calling for a climate of confidence, which only reveals that many businessmen have not yet adapted to the changes which must be carried out in Nicaragua to benefit the masses which were oppressed in the past.

If there is something we should be sure of it is that the revolution will not be halted by the oppositions of a minority. The question is how will the revolution face the case of the farmers who do not want to produce? Commander Jaime Wheelock, agricultural development minister and a member of the Sandinist Front National Directorate, will answer this question.

[Begin Wheelock recording] We have to abandon selfishness and privileges. We have to realize that we must work in difficult conditions which demand sacrifice. If we Nicaraguans want peace, calm, lasting stability and progress, we have to [word indistinct]. If we do not, then we will not have peace. Now then, if they do not want to plant, what are they going to do? Are they going to die of hunger? Well, if they want to die of hunger and not fulfill a patriotic duty, then let them die of hunger or let them go to other countries. Probably in those other countries the same thing will occur in a few years. Let them go to El Salvador, Honduras, Guatemala or Miami. How is the situation in Miami? Many Cubans are returning from Miami. They have become drug addicts there. They see that they are exploited there [words indistinct] in their country.

We have given all the guarantees we could humanly give them: credits, security, peace. However, we are not going to grant privileges. We will not permit the merciless exploitation of the rural workers, those who are helping the country with their sweat and sacrifice. We will not yield an inch on this. So if they do not want to plant, the doors are open for them to leave. We feel that Somizism never gave them so many facilities. We are giving them many more facilities than Somoizism ever gave them.

The rules of the game are clear. If they want to use the problem of cultivation for political pressure, they are completely mistaken. There is enough force here to replace them. There is enough labor (?for production). If the area which we believe should be planted has not been planted by a specific date then we will take measures so it will be planted. We want to have a minimum of 120,000 manzanas and a maximum of 150,000 manzanas planted this year. So we really do not fear that situation. We are ready for any eventuality. We know that, above all, we have the support of our people. Our people support the measures of the revolutionary government. It is a minority which has a [words indistinct] attitude. Therefore, we call for understanding [words indistinct]. I ask what are the facilities they have given us? The only thing they have given us is pressures.

CSO: 3010

LITERACY CAMPAIGN REPORTING CONTINUES

Sergio Ramirez Hails Campaign

PA240447 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1548 GMT 23 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by junta member Sergio Ramirez on initiation of national literacy campaign at Carlos Fonseca Revolution Square, Managua--live]

[Excerpts] Companeros, brother members of the Sandinist National Liberation Front (FSLN) directorate and of the junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, Monsignor Obando, companeros.

Whenever the revolution has called the revolutionaries to this plaza, whenever this plaza is filled, those who fear the revolution, those who tremble with anger before the revolution and those who would not even like to hear the word revolution, know that from this plaza the people advance on new marches and add a new stone to the building of its history and bring a new light for its future. A revolution is built with facts and not words.

If our people have learned anything it is that words mean something. [as heard. You know it well, the people know it well and our enemies know it well. This is not an innocent campaign; this is not an abstract campaign; this is not a campaign without consequences. This is a campaign to put an end to oppression and injustice. If our illiterate peasants and workers felt oppression, injustice and humiliation for so many centuries, they will now know what letters are used to spell these words and they will also know how to spell other words such as justice, dignity, liberation and revolution. [applause]

We clearly say it. These are the words of our primers. We cannot use others because with these words we are building the future. Instead of selfishness we shall spell solidarity, instead of exploitation we shall spell justice, instead of oppression we shall write liberation and revolution as many times as it is necessary. We shall learn to make a revolution and to teach the revolution. [applause] Those who do not want to hear the word revolution will have to put up with it for a while, they are just beginning to hear it. [applause]

During our trip to Europe Commander Bayardo Arce and myself read a magazine article in which the government was accused of spending a lot of money to rewrite the literacy primers, which according to them were printed already, so the first page could begin with the word Carlos. The story that we spent money in changing the primers, is false. But that the literacy primer begins with the word Carlos is true. [applause]

What do they expect? That we would teach our people the name of Adolfo Diaz and Emiliano Chamorro? That we would teach the people the name of our exploiters? Of course not. The primer does not say nor must it ever mention those who up to the last moment tried to keep Somoza's genocidal national guard from collapsing. The primer must not mention those who up to the last wanted to deal with the national guard and preserve the system. They were not the ones who put an end to dictatorship in this country. The primer does not spell the names of the traitorous merchants who thought about their business first. Who liberated Nicaragua? The primer says it was the people in arms, the popular rebellion and the Sandinist front who waged the war. [applause] It was the Sandinist front who led us to victory. An apolitical primer, a primer without the words, people, struggle, liberation, revolution, Carlos Fonseca, Sandino and Sandinist front would be a primer to continue manipulating the people for ideological purposes. [applause]

We are going to teach the people to read in order to make changes. When the literacy campaign is completed our brother peasants and workers will not be the same. You will not be the same. None of us will be the same. All of us are going to be more revolutionary, more aware, more determined to continue advancing. It is a matter of changing radically from within ourselves, to set aside old vices and old selfishness. This is the reason why this reading primer and this literacy campaign is not innocent. They were not created in a vacuum. They were not filled with empty words. They are filled with words that have the blood and sorrow of our people within them. [applause]

The campaign is the expression of the revolution which aims to change everything. The reading primer is the expression of the most militant Sandinism. It shows an awareness that we want to continue advancing to our only goal, the new free and just Nicaragua which you are dreaming of right now. The new Nicaragua you have dreamed so much about and which is leading you to this new war of liberation.

Arce Calls Campaign 'Political Struggle'

PA240343 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1627 GMT 23 Mar 80 PA

[Speech by Nicaraguan Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce on initiation of national literacy campaign at Carlos Fonseca Revolution Square, Managua—live]

[Excerpts] The national leadership of the Sandinist front greets you, fighters for literacy. In issuing this new combat order, the Sandinist

front is disposed to go along with you in a new battle against what is a representation of the imperialist and dictatorial domination in Nicaragua.

The struggle we are initiating today against ignorance, darkness, and illiteracy is an intensely political struggle because those social diseases are the result of imperialist domination, of dictatorial power, of the exercise of a bourgeoisie power that was only concerned with doing business and maintained all the workers and peasants of our country in darkness. [applause]

We are getting ready to win a battle against the historic enemies of our people, against those who maintained 52 percent of our people illiterate to exploit them with impunity, to steal the work of our peasants and workers, to deprive them of labor laws and revolutionary principles and keep them from learning so that they could become the masters of their history and future.

In fulfilling this [word indistinct] to bring literacy to our people, we will be preparing our peasants and workers so that they will be able to increasingly exercise popular power, the power they conquered with their arms, the power that they maintain today with the arms of the people's Sandinist army and militia. [applause]

This is why this literacy campaign has been questioned by those who benefited from the unjust situation left behind by the dictatorship. This is the reason for statements from persons such as Jose Esteban Gonzalez, Pedro Chamorro Barrios and a Gilberto Solis from the chamber of industries--the ones who went to Europe to tell that magazine Dr Ramirez mentioned that we were squandering money in the literacy campaign to give it a political nature.

The program of the Sandinist revolution notes the obligation of completely eradicating illiteracy in our country that the fighters of the Sandinist front have undertaken. Today we are beginning to fulfill one part of the program of the Sandinist front. We will fulfill it completely because our march will not stop until the revolution initiated by Sandino shines everywhere whatever the cost. [applause] Those who have tried to sabotage our revolution must realize this. Any element trying to sabotage the literacy campaign must also realize this.

You are aware that you may have to face threats from enemies of the revolution who may even try to harm you, to harass you, to scare you, but as in the first years of the Sandinist struggle in the mountains--when we began to make peasants aware and to organize them while we were unarmed, since we had no arms--you, with the same spirit and courage of the founders of our revolution, you will know how to earn the title of the new man, the title of Sandinist fighter. We know this. This represents today's big struggle.

But the peasants and the workers today have weapons. For this reason we are warning any element trying to harass or to sabotage or to harm a single literacy campaign fighter. We are warning any person trying to harm one single literacy campaign worker because that person will be crushed like a frog of the counterrevolution by our Sandinist army and militia. [applause]

We have talked with many literacy brigades, with companeros from the workers' literacy militias, with companeros from ERA [as heard], with the red and black brigade of the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers and we have discussed what will be the fundamental task of the literacy campaign. We do want to teach our people how to read and write, but we are not doing it just to feel at ease, to gain a psychological lift from having done something for the dispossessed.

We are going to teach peasants and workers how to read and write so that they will be prepared, so that they can function politically, so that they will have ideological and technical understanding and so that they can capably produce development and become the sole owners of the revolution. [applause]

Therefore, we must initiate this campaign with a realistic spirit. The economic development plans of our country and increased production, have to do with a literate people. We cannot improve our agricultural or production techniques, we cannot increase our industrial production if our workers and peasants are illiterates and cannot be trained in new techniques to obtain more wealth from nature and to distribute wealth more justly to really have a revolution shining in Nicaragua.

Therefore, we expect that this combat order given by the national leadership of the Sandinist front--an order which represents the mandate of Sandino and Carlos Fonseca--will be fulfilled by all of us with our heads high, with a high spirit of sacrifice, with the dignity of the children of Sandino.

The firm disposition, will and decision that permitted us to defeat the dictatorship and that was evident in 18 years of armed struggle today lays the best guarantee of our victory, the best guarantee that we will return victorious from the literacy campaign.

Fists high! [crowd cheers] Free fatherland! [crowd shouts: or death!]

Carrion Discusses Campaign

PA241331 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1541 GMT 23 Mar 80 PA

[Carlos Carrion speech at Managua's Revolutionary Plaza on opening of literacy campaign today--live]

[Excerpt] Today in all parts of the country meetings are being held in which we are making an all-out call to attack and everywhere workers, youths, district dwellers and peasants say "present," once again, to the call of their vanguard.

Sixty thousand brigadists and 60,000 peoples' teachers are our invincible cultural army, before whose overwhelming force, the ignorance which has for centuries made more acute the conditions of misery and oppression in which our people were submerged until 19 April 1979, will fall defeated.

In these 120,000 bosoms there is the firm determination to make the dreams of our martyrs come true. They will not betray the blood of those who fell for our freedom. There are 120,000 throats which give their support to our revolution and 120,000 fists are ready to fall on the enemies of the Nicaraguan people and their freedom.

While the oppressors of yesterday and the plotters of today plot against our revolution and intend to impose conditions detrimental to our national dignity and try to frighten our people--and may even set fire to a warehouse with vaccines and medical equipment for Nicaraguan children--we, the whole people, prepare to wage the battle against ignorance.

This fact by itself determines the difference between the revolution and its enemies, between honest Nicaraguans and criminals.

But this has not been easy and in order to reach this moment great efforts and sacrifices of the companeros who in one way or another have participated in the organization and preparation of this great crusade have been demanded.

We could not begin the great literacy crusade today if all our people had not given their full support through their organizations. Neither could we lead this effort to its successful completion without an active and constant support.

Foreign Student Participation

PA211950 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0505 GMT 21 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Managua, 20 Mar (ACAN-EFE)--Panama, Cuba, Brazil, Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Angola, the GDR and the Dominican Republic have sent representatives from their university organizations to be members of the international brigade participating in this country's national literacy campaign.

This campaign will be officially inaugurated on Monday, when over 70,000 volunteers leave for all parts of the country to live with the peasants in the most remote villages to teach them to read and write.

International Union of Students [IUS] President Humberto Toala declared here today at a news conference that the international brigade will be called "Oliverio Castaneda" in honor of the Guatemalan student martyr killed 2 years ago by paramilitary troops during a demonstration.

The expenses incurred by the brigade will be paid by the IUS, the 19 July Sandinist Youth Movement and from campaign funds.

Toala also stated that attempts have been made in some countries to downplay the Nicaraguan literacy campaign's nobility and humanitarian spirit, but that student organizations have been curbing these attempts.

"In this campaign we will work wherever we are sent for as long as it lasts," the IUS president promised.

Campaign Reactivates All Sectors

PA250204 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1930 GMT 24 Mar 80 PA

[Text] Since yesterday, when the literacy brigades were sworn in all over the country, so they could leave today from various points in search of our illiterate brothers, all kinds of vehicles had to be used to carry the crusaders. While this mobilization of all types of vehicles--including our typical oxcarts, trains, boats, planes, mules and so forth--took place, carrying our young brigade members, business and trade were also forced to reactivate their production.

This morning, shops were crowded by clients trying to buy not only clothes, but other things as well, to supply the young crusade members who for about 5 months will have to live away from home. The parents, who have understood that the government cannot supply the brigade members with everything they will need during their great activity, have spared no effort to supply their children with all essentials and since last week have been buying all kinds of things, thus bringing about a great commercial reactivation.

In the same manner, industries have been reactivated, since the state itself has had to buy many things with which to supply the brigade members.

Today there was a terrible transportation shortage because all kinds of vehicles are being used to transport the brigade members. This delayed thousands of employees who wanted to get to their jobs on time, but children are of primary concern at this point and the literacy crusade members must reach distant points in order to achieve their goal.

We know there was a shortage of collective transport including taxis, the pickups that for months have been used to transport people, and urban buses. But this is compensated by the government's great effort to send our children far away from home to fulfill the mission assigned to them.

We must report that some people have been taking advantage of this situation. For instance, in Ciudad Sandino, the owners of buses have been charging as much as 3 cordobas per ride. This has greatly displeased those poor students and parents who wanted to reach the schools and institutes from where they would later leave for the places to where the literacy campaign has sent them.

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

ENVOY TO COSTA RICA DEFENDS LITERACY CAMPAIGN

PA192036 Paris AFP in Spanish 0458 GMT 19 Mar 80 PA

[Text] San Jose, 18 Mar (AFP)--If there is one thing the Nicaraguan revolution has earned, it is the right to speak loudly and clearly, Nicaraguan Ambassador to Javier Chamorro [as received] commented in an article published here today in the newspaper LA NACION.

In an article entitled "The Literacy Crusade in Nicaragua Will Continue To Be Sandinist," the diplomat responds to the local critics of Nicaragua's literacy crusade, which some people charge is imbued with ideology.

According to Chamorro, through the literacy crusade, slated to begin on 24 March, the Nicaraguan revolution seeks to teach a true national history.

The campaign, which Chamorro termed a political-educational project, seeks to present a broad panorama to our people, teaching all aspects of the Nicaraguan process.

Commenting on the church's role in the Nicaraguan revolutionary process, Chamorro referred to an appeal by Nicaraguan Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo asking all families to participate in the crusade.

The ambassador adds in his article that this political-educational project provides orientation to the Nicaraguan people on the significance of the revolution, whose vanguard has been and continues to be the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN].

Chamorro states that there are many political parties in his country. Some of these have formed a unitarian bloc alongside the FSLN, as is the case of the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement. There are also several opposition parties, such as the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua.

Chamorro affirms that private property is respected in Nicaragua, where it plays an important role in the 1980 economic reactivation plan, geared as it is toward the attainment of the country's social welfare.

SERGIO RAMIREZ INTERVIEWED BY SWEDISH PAPER

LD201305 Stockholm SVENSKA DAGBLADET in Swedish 14 Mar 80 p 7 LD

[Interview "In Early March" with Sergio Ramirez Mercado, "A leader of the Nicaraguan ruling junta," by Hans Mansson: "Elections Not Needed Now"]

[Text] [Question] When will a general election be held and what type of election will it be?

[Answer] I cannot give a definite answer at present. We will first have to carry out municipal elections, once we have created an electoral machine. But the most important thing for us at present is not to legitimize our power through a general election. I think that most people agree that an election today would only give one result, an overwhelming victory for the front. So it is more important that we work to solve all enormous problems that face us.

[Question] What political system do you see for Nicaragua in the future?

[Answer] I envisage that [word indistinct] call an open society. But it is difficult to say exactly how it will be. It is not certain that there will be an election every 4 years with two parties which alternate in power, as in Costa Rica. Perhaps that is not the democratic model for our country. If there is a form of organization which creates participation for workers and agricultural workers, then in my opinion this is a guarantee of democracy.

[Question] Would there be any difference in practice if you introduced a "Nicaraguan socialism" instead of "Sandinism," which you are following now?

[Answer] For us Sandinism is a political ideology which we are trying to realize. It concerns justice, freedom and a far-reaching transformation of society which much be made. If one follows a traditional political pattern there is a risk of falling into some trap or other. We know that we do not want a typically capitalist system, where the best thing for a person is to earn as much money as possible, own two cars and four houses, and so forth. This is completely unthinkable in a country as poor as ours.

Nicaragua will be a society built on solidarity, not egoism, following ideals which are found in socialism, Christianity and Sandinism.

[Question] If we look at what has happened in the country since your victory, are there any lessons you have learned and made use of from other countries, like Cuba or Chile, for example?

[Answer] They have made many mistakes which we have tried to avoid. We have, for example, tried to gain wider political support, from different political movements. This gives us strength compared with the reactionary forces who criticize our revolution, for we accept support from everyone, if it is given unconditionally.

[Question] And within the country?

[Answer] I would say that our problem is that we have all the power....

[Question] Is that a problem?

[Answer] Yes, in a way it is, in our political balancing act in domestic policies. When one has all the power, one must decide oneself how this power is to be used. We do not need to win the approval of any other force. Therefore, the revolution has a broad political base for strategic reasons, not as a result of forced political compromise.

[Question] And the private sector has no political power?

[Answer] No, it does not have that sort of influence. Our invitation to them to participate in the revolutionary process is based on our conviction that they are needed in the work of reconstruction.

[Question] Will private enterprise be allowed to continue to exist in the long term?

[Answer] We have given private companies all possible guarantees for their continued work. They receive loans from the state banks. We think that it ought to be like this. We are not tacticians who fatten up the private sector now to later chop off its head.

[Question] Other revolutionary states have often had problems with interference from the CIA, and even here in Nicaragua the CIA is much spoken of as a threat to the revolution.

[Answer] The problem is that the CIA seldom collects information without at the same time putting forward various alternative courses of action, and we are afraid that the information they are sending to Washington contains such plans. What we have is a sort of general intelligence which makes it seem probable that activities are taking place with support from abroad. But we have not found any CIA documents or agents in this connection.

[Question] Is there any basic difference in relations with the United States on the one hand and with West Europe on the other?

[Answer] The difference is principally that with West Europe we mainly have economic cooperation, whereas with the United States a lot of politics has been involved. Since our victory we have found that countries like Sweden, the Netherlands and West Germany have been prepared to give economic support without political strings, on favorable economic terms. Of course, this also indicates a certain amount of political support as well. The difference is also shown by the fact that European politicians never come here to examine the state of our democracy, to see whether we are well-behaved little boys, before we are given their support.

[LB201307] [Question] Month after month discussions continued in the United States regarding President Carter's proposal to give a loan of \$75 million to Nicaragua, before it was finally approved by both the Senate and Congress, but with certain conditions attached. What is your view of this protracted story?

[Answer] Well, the arguments in the debate became so ridiculous finally that they became completely unreal. One side said that the United States ought not to give the loan since it would be supporting a communist country under the influence of the Soviet Union, while the other side said that the loan had to be made in order to save Nicaragua from communism. I see the fact that the level of argument sank so low as a triumph for the most conservative factions in the United States. For our part we awaited the outcome with almost biblical patience.... It is not so pleasant for a country to be turned inside out in another country's parliament, even when a loan of \$75 million is at stake. At present we still do not know what the final conditions for this loan will be, so we will have to wait a little before saying whether we can accept it or not.

[Question] As far as your relations with other countries nearer to hand are concerned, is it not difficult for you to express solidarity with the popular movements in El Salvador and Guatemala, for example, and also to stay on good terms at government level?

[Answer] Of course, I give my personal support to those movements which desire democratic change in El Salvador. And our revolution has been an important example for revolutionaries in other countries, a psychological support. But at the same time we have friendly ties with the governments in El Salvador, Honduras...and Guatemala. If the revolutionary movements in those countries were to ask us for military support, we would not give them it. It would be the scandal of the century.

Our most important responsibility to Latin America is to secure our own revolution and we will not jeopardize it by interfering in other people's affairs.

SOCIALIST LEADER HAILS SANDINIST UNITY

PA221955 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 22 Mar 80 PA

[Excerpts] More forces have expressed support for the call for national unity, which is a historical imperative at this moment. Socialist Party leader (Natham) Sevilla speaks over our microphones about the appeal the national directorate of the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] has made to the nation.

[Begin recording] [Sevilla] This unity should be achieved on the basis of the Sandinist ideology, which is popular and revolutionary in nature. [Word indistinct] this commitment to the people binds all social strata, all social classes, which must realize that the future and history of our people [word indistinct] the future our people have decided to build. Therefore, the anti-imperialist platform, which is part of Sandinism's essence, must also be upheld. We must say no to the CIA's maneuvers, to reaction and to the most privileged circles of big capital and yes to the unity around the FSLN and the Government of National Reconstruction.

This government and this revolution can be criticized in a constructive and positive vein. However, to construe attacks on the very foundation of people's power as being constructive is inadmissible. The people's power is based on national unity and on a positive view of the changes which are taking place. The history of other nations has also confirmed the fact that [the struggle for] national liberation puts men and social classes to a test. (?And there is evidence) that it makes some make a firm decision and others to fall into indecisiveness, which can even lead to treason. Treason has made people who relied on CIA and imperialist maneuvers and decided to act as their puppets feel great remorse. They allowed themselves to be seduced by their counterrevolutionary programs and, in a bid to revive the past of injustices and repression and to maintain privileges, they embarked on dangerous counterrevolutionary adventures.

It is most important that the managerial sectors which have been harshly critical of the revolution realize the need for them to fall into line with the new scale of values our people are establishing. The issue here is no longer to attach a value to maximum profits, exploitation, indifference in face of the needs of the majority of our people, consumption of luxury items, the importation of goods made in the United States and other countries

for a small group of privileged people. Rather, the issue now is to establish selfless work in favor of all the people, generosity and modest consumption as the highest values in our country. There must be a new concept about the managerial sector's role in the country's economy because businessmen now must resign themselves to earning a modest profit to meet family and personal needs within a framework of human dignity but not one of wrongdoing.

There is an important future of national unity on that basis, for example, the basis of the Sandinist ideology, the basis of (?loyalty) to the various (?sectors) of our people.

A new attitude must be adopted vis-a-vis the economic, social and political processes. This requires setting aside the capitalist system's lack of humanity and to understand revolutionary humanism, humanism based on a scientific arrangement and an economic system for the distribution of wealth. It means transforming our lifestyle. This means a new spirit in Nicaragua.

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

SECURITY OFFICIAL REPORTS ON CRIMINAL GANG

PA181604 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 18 Mar 80 PA

[Text] The state security has reported on the conspiracy of Eli Altamirano's gang. The main leaders will be turned over to the special courts. The members of the Central of Labor Action and Unity [CAUS] and those of Eli Altamirano's gang violated the agreement signed on 14 February with the Independent General Labor Confederation and the Sandinist Workers Central to promote production and to take the initial steps to form a single workers central. Guerrilla Commander Lenin Cerna, responsible for state security, made these statements this afternoon.

Along with Deputy Interior Minister Companero Jose Valdivia and guerrilla Commander Walter Ferreti, Lenin Cerna told newsmen that in a preconceived plan, Eli Altamirano's gang provoked strikes, the occupation of factories, sabotage of machinery in the San Antonio Sugar Mill and the seizure of state lands in several areas to turn the peasants against the state. There was also a military plan to infiltrate the Sandinist People's Army and the Sandinist police to form the armed wing of Eli Altamirano's gang.

Companero Lenin Cerna added that the proof against them is not in their words but their actions, which have been patiently followed by the state security and which are obvious to everyone. Eli Altamirano's gang plotted against the revolution and the Sandinist state. Its military plans were revealed by a secret document entitled "The Party." Instead of talking about eradicating imperialism from the fatherland the document talked about attacking the Sandinist state. Lenin Cerna added that in (Fabritex), Eli Altamirano's gang issued a call to parents so that their children would not participate in the national literacy campaign. In the eastside neighborhoods of Costa Rica and Christian Perez, it slandered and maligned the leaders of the revolution, describing them as bourgeois and alien to the working class.

As a result of all these crimes, 55 members of El Altamirano's gang are under arrest. Many of them will be released but the leaders and main instigators will be turned over to the special courts. They are Adan Zambrana, Ramon Quintanilla, Jose A. Bravo [name indistinct], Lino Saldana Briceno,

Ricardo Arauz Garcia, Alfredo Lopez Hernandez, Carlos Molina Samayoa, Claudio B. Salgado Briceno, Alvino Salinas Valle, Ernesto Bendana Medina, Esteban Medina Diaz, Noel Lindo Palma, Edgar Zapata Chavez, Julio C. Varela Cuaresma, Julio C. Fonseca Aleman and Francisco Lopez. Eli Altamirano has not been captured yet.

Lenin Cerna said the revolutionary government is able to thwart any counter-revolutionary attempt of its enemies.

CSO: 3010

OFFICIALS NOTE GOVERNMENT MISTRUST OF BUSINESS

PA201216 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Mar 80 PA

[Text] It is not the attitude of the Revolutionary Government that is sowing mistrust among the entrepreneurial sector but the other way around, state officials have stated. The actions of certain businessmen who have drained their firms of capital [words indistinct] insure the economic reactivation of the Nicaraguan people is what is making the government mistrustful.

Businessmen have taken to talking about uncertainty and [the need for] more clarity in the revolutionary guidelines but they are not focusing on national production which will give us greater political, industrial and economic stability, Marco Castillo, vice president of the National Development Bank, said. Commenting on the pronouncement issued by the Superior Council of Private Enterprise, Deputy Domestic Trade Minister Pedro Antonio Blandon said it was intended to benefit a specific group, while big business and industry is forgetting its major responsibility to the people.

Industry Minister Fernando Guzman said the climate of mistrust has been triggered in the government by specific events caused by certain businessmen who, in a criminal action against the people, were trying to weaken their firms. The government decided to issue a decree on the capital drain to punish those individuals who are proven to have committed this crime.

It is more of a warning so later they will not claim they thought they could do it because there were no laws to stop them.

CSO: 3010

PLASTICS FACTORY SEIZED BY EMPLOYEES

PA211413 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Mar 80 PA

[Communique by employees of Robelo Plastics Factory]

[Text] Nicaraguan revolutionaries are dutybound to protect the revolutionary process. Thus we hereby state that Mauricio Robelo Valladares, director of Litografia y Plasticos Robelo S.A. and his son Mauricio Robelo Espinoza, acting as general manager, are interrupting production at the firm.

A few days ago 10 employees were dismissed when management claimed that there was a lack of raw material. However, they are selling molds and products manufactured prior to the revolution. The concern is working behind closed doors, that is to say, illegally, and the machinery is being rented out. This produces a profit which goes into their pockets. The concern is evading its tax payments.

Also there are machines not being used. These businessmen are, therefore, opposing the 1980 reactivation plan. The question is, how can these gentlemen, who had ties with the Somozist dictatorship, calmly exploit the long-suffering working people? These businessmen think they are still living in the corrupt times of Somoza.

We hereby reveal the ties of these businessmen with Somozism:

Mauricio Robelo Balladares had a diplomatic passport, exempting him from taxes and allowing him to bring in raw materials. He had loans from state institutions to expand production. However, he used these loans to travel abroad and repaid them without interest.

They also had phantom jobs at the National Bank, where they attended meetings twice a week and earned thousands of dollars.

Mauricio Robelo Balladares was a honorary captain and used national guardsmen to compel the employees to work if they called a strike. He said those who wanted to work could do so and dismissed the others.

Following the earthquake, Somoza sent him [words indistinct]. Salaries have been miserly for many years and social security payments have been made only recently. However, the dismissed companeros did not receive these benefits.

Mauricio Robelo Espinoza, director of the so-called Children's Hospital, director of the National Light and Power Enterprise [ENALUF], recipient of several thousand cordobas for two meetings a week at the National Bank, celebrator of Somoza's birthday, according to NOVEDADES of 6 December 1978, holder of a diplomatic passport and sender of telegrams to Somoza wishing him prosperity, and recipient of the dictator's reply telegrams, was also a partner, together with other Somozists, in a concern called Envases Industriales.

We have other evidence which [we] will present to the authorities.

CSO: 3010

NICARAGUA

PASTORA ATTENDS CULTURAL WEEK IN SAN JOSE

PA251608 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 25 Mar 80 PA

[Text] In Nicaragua we have plurality and liberty and for this reason we have political parties, Eden Pastora, Commander Cero has said. [as printed] Pastora came to Costa Rica to inaugurate the cultural week of the new Nicaragua.

In a news conference, he said that reconstruction is more difficult than revolution. He said: The United States refused to lend \$75 million to Nicaragua but we have already obtained \$60 million in donations. We will not allow presidential candidates to eliminate the literacy campaign. We had announced that we would establish relations with all nations. The Soviet Union will help us in the fields of electricity, communications and energy. We have not deceived anybody because we had said that we would establish relations with all nations in the world.

The Sandinist National Liberation Front is now a political bloc that rules Nicaragua, Eden Pastora affirmed.

In a news conference held at the Nicaraguan Embassy, Eden Pastora said that all the parties have merged; consequently, a bloc of parties is currently ruling that country.

He said that most of the private sector is helping the reconstruction of the country and that only a small minority that was never pro-Sandinist is criticizing the government.

We must speak of reconstruction and education, Eden Pastora said yesterday at the news conference. He noted that the country cannot speak of free elections yet, 7 months after the revolution. What we must speak about is reconstruction and education and not elections because they represent a \$50-million expenditure. He maintained that freedom of the press exists in Nicaragua. He said that there is freedom of speech, that there is even criticism of the revolutionary process. However, it must be understood that it is a right within the revolution.

NICARAGUA

BRIEFS

DECAPITALIZATION MANEUVERS--Dr Leonel Arguello Ramirez, former director of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP], at an appearance yesterday, Sunday, on the program "Actualidades de Radio Sandino," enumerated the various forms of decapitalization used by the traitorous bourgeoisie to sabotage the nation's economic recovery. Such forms of decapitalization, he said, could be explained as follows: one, shipping out of the country all fixed and mobile machinery; two, illegally shipping out cattle and selling them in neighboring countries; three, slaughtering milk cattle; four, distributing dividends in advance; five, selling merchandise at less than true value; six, paying higher prices for imported raw materials, leaving the balance abroad, and seven, jewelry contraband through peddlers. Doctor Arguello also referred to other decapitalization maneuvers such as failing to import the vital spare parts for proper maintenance of equipment, with disastrous consequences in the economy through reduced production, increased unemployment and other negative effects on the nation's economic recovery. [PA241540 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 24 Mar 80 PA]

ECONOMIC RELATIONS WITH BULGARIA--Commander of the Revolution Henry Ruiz, minister of planning of Nicaragua, today met in the Bulgarian capital with Andrey Lukanov, deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and Dimitur Stanishev, secretary of the Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee. Matters concerned with prospects for and forthcoming expansion of bilateral economic relations and relations between the Sandinist National Liberation Front and Bulgarian Communist Party were discussed during the talk in which experts of the two countries also participated. [Text] [FL252352 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 25 Mar 80 FL]

BULGARIAN SOLIDARITY REAFFIRMED--Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council and first secretary of the Communist Party of Bulgaria, has reaffirmed to the high-level Nicaraguan delegation that is visiting Sofia his solidarity with the people of that Central American nation. The maximum Bulgarian leader stressed that the triumph of the Nicaraguan revolution under the leadership of the Sandinist Front not only is of great national significance but also important in the struggle for peace. Zhivkov met with Commander of the Revolution Tomas Borge, Humberto Ortega, Henry Ruiz and Nicaraguan Government Junta member Moises Hassan who have been in Sofia since Saturday. [Text] [FL241123 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 24 Mar 80 FL]

UNION FREEDOM REPORTS--Union freedom is operating in Nicaragua. This is shown by the fact that 264 new unions have been granted a legal status. The Office of Union Associations, which is directed by Companero Orlando [name indistinct], reported that from 6 August 1979 to 15 March 1980 it has granted legal status to 264 unions. Companero [name indistinct] said the revolutionary government is granting an average of 37 legal status papers a month. He noted the contrast between these figures and those of the Somozist government which in 16 years granted legal status to 430 unions. He added that if this rate continues, the Labor Ministry will be granting 456 legal status papers a year. In other words, the revolution will do in 1 year what the dictatorship did in 16 years. [Text] [PA201535 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 0300 GMT 20 Mar 80 PA]

FO, 'EL PUEBLO' RELATIVES STRIKE--It was 1 month yesterday since the relatives of the Workers Front (FO) and EL PUEBLO newspaper prisoners began staging a strike. The FO and EL PUEBLO prisoners have been sentenced to 1 year in jail and 1 month of hard labor. A few days ago Commander Dora Maria Tellez and Hugo Torres visited them and asked them to abandon their stand, but they did not accomplish anything and the strike is still on. [Text] [PA242304 Managua Radio Mundial in Spanish 1930 GMT 24 Mar 80 PA]

CSO: 3010

PRD PEASANT SEMINAR DECLARES SUPPORT FOR TORRIJOS

PA222150 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 22 Mar 80 p 24 PA

[Text] Peasant leaders meeting at the first national seminar to organize the peasant front of the Democratic Revolutionary Party [PRD] have confirmed their militancy in the Panamanian revolutionary process and their unconditional loyalty for the leader of the process, Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera.

The seminar which began on Thursday in Divisa is being held for peasant leaders, Corregimiento representatives, honorable constituents and presidents of agrarian production boards and peasant settlements of the Azuero Region.

On Thursday, first day of the seminar, the speaker was Rodolfo Perez, from the PRD electoral and mobilization front. On Friday the speakers were Victor M. Calderon, provisional PRD president for Herrera Province, and Carlos Vergara, president of the PRD in Los Santos Province. They emphasized the importance of holding this seminar to give political education to the true leaders of the national peasant movement.

Another speaker at the seminar was Roko Setka, undersecretary general of organization of the PRD. He emphasized that unlike the country's traditional parties, which were structured from the top down, the PRD is a party which wants to insure real representation of the people through the broadest and most positive participation of the members in the actions of the organization.

The movie "El Verdadero Protagonista" produced by the experimental university movie group, was shown during the seminar. It documents the struggle of generations of the Panamanian people to have their sovereign rights over all of the national territory recognized. The movie was warmly applauded by those attending the seminar, who sent General Torrijos Herrera a telegram reaffirming their loyalty to the principles of the revolutionary process and emphasizing his capacity as a leader who has been capable of leading the destinies of the fatherland on a victorious course and inviting him to deliver the closing speech at this seminar.

According to PRD spokesmen, similar seminars to this one in Azuero will be held during the following weekends for the peasant leaders of Veraguas and Coclé provinces.

PANAMA

JUSTICE MINISTER CLAIMS IAPA REPORT UNFAIR

PA221403 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 21 Mar 80 PA

[Interview with Government and Justice Minister Ricardo Alonso Rodríguez by Jose Hernandez--recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Yesterday the Inter-American Press Association [IAPA] meeting in San Jose, Costa Rica, evaluated the freedom of the press in Latin America and in the specific case of Panama said that in the last 3 months the freedom of the press had deteriorated in Panama. It based this statement on the expulsion of two foreign correspondents and the situation of the radio commentators at the present time. What is your opinion of this report?

[Answer] We have never been well-liked by this organization, but I have not read the report you mention. Our country has never, at least during our government, obtained a favorable report from this organization. They use as an exponent of the freedom of the expression, the democratic freedom in our country, a man who is neither a journalist nor radio commentator or director of any social communications media. In addition he represents one of the smallest minority groups in this country. He is not a representative who has knowledge of the national situation. This indicates the biased tendency of this organization in judging Panamanian problems. I will say that that organization is unjust because, in my opinion and in the opinion of all responsible Panamanians, this country has never had greater freedom of expression. We have taken administrative actions through the social communications department regarding four commentators but we have not impeded the operation of freedom of expression in the media in which they worked.

CSO: 3010

ST LUCIA

BRIEFS

TOURIST TRADE--The St Lucian Government has appointed a one-man committee to consider certain deficiencies in the island's vital tourist industry. The committee member, Minister of State Michael Pilgrim, has been empowered to come up with recommendations based on his findings for improving the Tourist Industry. He will consider a report prepared last November by a London firm and which included an assessment of future investments needs of the St Lucian Tourist Industry. [FL262119 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 26 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

AIR CONTROLLERS STRIKE--The effects of the action of air traffic controllers at Trinidad and Tobago's Piarco International Airport, is now a source of great concern to aviation and airline officials in that country. The controllers took industrial action on the 10th of this month to protest against delays in improving what they called the unsafe, unsatisfactory and chaotic situation of the airport tower. They are asking for improved aviation aids, including radar, as well as to have nonfunctional equipment repaired. Senior aviation officials said today that the controllers' action has been causing delays and inconvenience to airlines operating out of the island's main airport. [FL262119 Kingston Domestic Service in English 2030 GMT 26 Mar 80 FL]

CSO: 3020

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